Beyond heaven...
Where the country is vast,
and the girls are cute!
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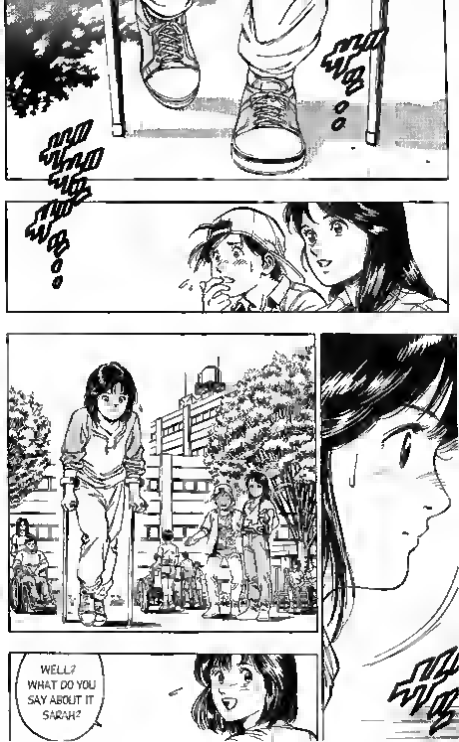
THE NEW EMPIRE

MANGASCREENER

MEDIC@MANGASCREENER
SO FRESH & SO CLEAN!

CHAPTER 8: FIRST LOVE
THE FLOWER THAT CARRIES THE LIGHT OF HAPPINESS WITHIN
©YU TAKEUCHI


WELL? WHAT DO YOU SAY ABOUT IT SARAH?

SATSUKI, WELL, THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW
IT IS A REAL MIRACLE!
THAT'S GREAT! YOU HAVE JUST BEEN VISITING THE CENTER FOR PHYSICAL THERAPY FOR TWO MONTHS AND YOU ARE ALREADY CAPABLE OF WALKING WITH CRUTCHES!
HE HE ♡
YOU SHOULD NOT MAKE ANY UNNECESSARY EFFORTS, YOU HAVE TO REST!
BUT I'M NOT TIRED!
NO, NEVER! SATSUKI, DON'T YOU SEE, IT IS BECAUSE I AM WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
IT'S TRUE
YOU ALWAYS BEHAVE AROUND ME LIKE I AM MADE OF SUGAR!
YOU SEE THAT IS WHY I DIDN'T WANT YOU TO COME!
HEHE
KAZUKI !!

SATSUKI !!
HUH... WHO IS THAT?
WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR SISTER HAS MADE A FRIEND HERE.

HE IS CALLED KAZUKI KAJIWARA. HE WAS ALREADY HERE WHEN I ARRIVED HERE.
HE PLAYS TOUGH IN FRONT OF THE GIRLS, BUT IT IS JUST NOT AIR! WHAT A PITY!
BELIEVE ME WITH MY LUNG DISEASE HE BEING A MALE.
HE IS REALLY VERY BRAVE. REGARDLESS OF ALL THE DIFFICULT EXERCISES, I HAVE NEVER SEEN HIM CRY.
AT FIRST I WAS ALL ALONE AND A LITTLE SAD... BUT LATER, KAZUKI AND ME TALKED AND HE TAUGHT ME A LOT OF THINGS!
PFF ANOTHER FOOL WHO LIKES TO WHEEL AROUND MECHANICALLY.
THAT MUST HURT
DAMN! IT IS TOO HOT!... AND FUR-THERMORE I DON'T FEEL LIKE TAKING CARE OF THE FLOWERS!
HM.
IN ANY CASE, I AM HAPPY THAT YOU HAVE FOUND A FRIEND HERE.

WHAT'S WRONG TATSUYA?!
NOTHING
SHUT UP YOU CICADAS!!!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT AT ALL!
YOU ARE IN A BAD MOOD BECAUSE YOUR SISTER HAS INVITED KAZUKI TO COME AND AMURE HIMSELF AT YOUR PLACE, AM I WRONG?
I KNOW WHAT YOUR PROBLEM IS.
YOU ARE REALLY SUFFERING FROM A "SIS-COM."

THAT IS WHEN A BROTHER FEELS MORE THAN BROTHERLY LOVE FOR HIS SISTER. THAT'S YOU 100 PERCENT!!
NOOO! YOU ARE SUFFERING FROM A SISTER-COMPLEX!!
THAT'S SIS-COM?
A "SIS-COM"? THE HEALTHY CEREAL BASED ON POPCORN?
??? TWO FRAMES LEFT FOR THE FLAMEWAR
WHAT?! ARE YOU TRYING TO PRETEND THAT I HAVE A ROMANTIC TENDENCY TOWARDS MY SISTER?!
WITH A BROTHER LIKE ME, WHY DOES SHE NEED ANOTHER BOY?!...
UNBELIEVABLE...
BUT WHAT DID HE HAVE THAT I DIDN'T?
I I MADE A JOKE!
IT IS WAR!!!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT SATSUKI? YOU CAN WALK WITHOUT YOUR CRUTCHES?
YES, DON'T WORRY

HUH?
YOU REALLY HAVE PASSED ME QUICKLY, SATSUKI...
YES, I HAVE BEEN AT THE CENTER FOR A MUCH LONGER TIME THAN YOU.

WHEN I PUSH ON YOUR WHEEL-CHAIR, IT IS EVEN EASIER THAN WITH THE CRUTCHES!
♡

AH, YES?

WHEN I SEE HOW QUICKLY YOU HAVE MADE PROGRESS, I AM A BIT ASHAMED
BUT I STILL CANNOT EVEN LIFT MYSELF

I'M SORRY, KAZUKI...

MAYBE THIS MEANS THAT I WILL HAVE TO STAY IN THIS WHEELCHAIR... FOREVER.

I'M SORRY...
SATSUKI, DON'T SAY THAT! I WASN'T EVEN THINKING ABOUT THAT!
I ONLY THOUGHT OF THE PLEASURE TO BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN.
I DIDN'T CONSIDER YOUR FEELINGS...
I'M SORRY...
SATSUKI...
KAZUKI, HAVE YOU ALREADY HEARD OF
THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT?"

NO, NEVER.
SHE TOLD ME THAT A LONG TIME AGO THESE FLOWERS GREW ON THE BORDERS OF THIS RIVER.
SHE TOLD ME THAT THESE FLOWERS WERE CAPABLE OF BRINGING HAPPINESS TO EVERYONE WHO LOOKED AT THEM. AND THAT THEY WERE REALLY CAPABLE OF MAKING WHATEVER WISH COME TRUE!
MY GRANDMOTHER HAS TAUGHT ME ABOUT THE EXISTENCE.

BUT THESE DAYS, THEY HAVE ALL GONE... AND THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN ARE FAR FROM HAPPY.
IT APPEARED THAT THERE WERE A LOT OVER HERE, WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG. THAT IS WHY ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS TOWN WERE HAPPY...

THAT WAY.
I WISHED THAT YOU COULD SEE THESE FLOWERS.
MAGNIFICENT FLOWERS INDEED. MAYBE THERE ARE SOME MORE UPSTREAM.
I ASK MYSELF WHAT KIND OF FLOWER IT COULD HAVE BEEN.

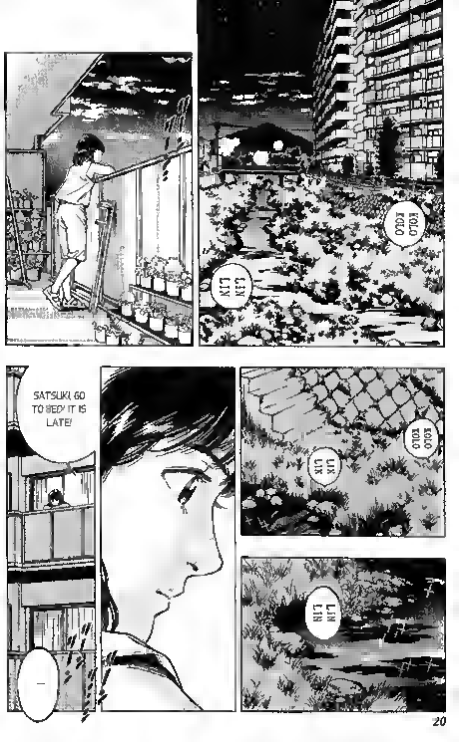
DON'T WORRY SATSUKI. I HAVE NOT LOST COURAGE.

THAT WAY YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN FOR SURE!

OH HI, SATSUKI

THE "FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT"!!
MAYBE IT IS JUST A STORY...
AS FAR AS I KNOW, THERE DON'T EXISTS FLOWS IS LIKE THAT AROUND THE RIVER.
BUT MY GRANDMOTHER HAS OFTEN TALKED TO ME ABOUT THEM.
IS THAT RIGHT? I THOUGHT THAT AT LEAST YOU, SARAH,
I AM SORRY, BUT... IT DOESN'T MEAN ANYTHING TO ME.
SATSUKI! WAIT!
NO!! SHE TOLD ME THAT THEY REALLY EXISTED!!

BUT FLOWERS ?!
CERTAIN TYPES OF MUSHROOMS AND MOSSES PRODUCE LIGHT...
WE CALL THIS LUMINES CENCE
THAT IS WHAT I THOUGHT
WHY DO YOU ASK?
SAT SUKI
I HAVE NEVER SEEN HER SO FURIOUS.
THOSE FLOWERS MUST BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO HER.
MAYBE I SHOULD LIE TO SATSUKI AND TELL HER FINALLY THAT THEY REALLY EXIST
UH NOTHING
OH OKAY


KOO
KOO
KOO
KOO
LUR
LUR
LUR
LUR
SATSUKI, GO TO BED! IT IS LATE!
—

県立リハビリセンター
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
KAZUKI! TAKE A BREAK NOW! YOU ARE TOO TIRED!
KAZUKI.
GO!!
YOU CAN DO IT!!!

KAZUKI!
HMPF
DAMN!
YOU HAVE NOT HURT YOURSELF KAZUKI?
KAZ

I FAILED... I WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO DO IT! I'M HOPELESS!!
DON'T SAY THAT...
YOU ARE VERY BRAVE! YOU HAVE MADE A LOT OF EFFORTS UP TILL NOW! YOU CANNOT GIVE UP NOW!!
KAZUKI...
LET'S GO TO FIND
THE "FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT"

I TOLD YOU TO SHUT UP YOU CICADAS!!!
DON'T RECOGNIZE HER ANYMORE. RECENTLY IT IS ALL HIS FAULT!!
THERE IS NO HOPE
WHAT DO YOU HAVE WITH THE CICADAS?
MOTHER? WHAT IS WRONG?!
IT IS VERY SERIOUS, IT IS ABOUT SATSUKI!
TATSUYA!!
THEY PISS ME OFF THEY REMIND ME OF THE CENTER OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION WHERE SATSUKI HAS MET TH S PLAYBOY IN SHORTS!

WHAT?! BUT SHE CAN HARDLY WALK!
THE PEOPLE FROM THE CENTER HAVE GONE TO LOOK FOR HER. THEY THINK THAT SHE HAS TRIED TO GO HOME ALONE.
WHAT?!! SHE HAS DISAPPEARED FROM THE CENTER?!

WE WILL LOOK FOR HER TOO
SAT SUKI.

MAYBE WE HAVE TO GO EVEN MORE UPSTREAM.
I ASK MYSELF IF THEY STILL EXIST. I DON'T SEE ANYTHING ELSE BUT GRASS AND ORDINARY FLOWERS.

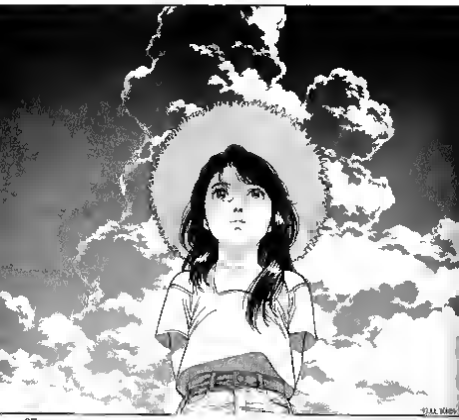
SAT-
SUKI!!!

SAT-
SUKI!!!

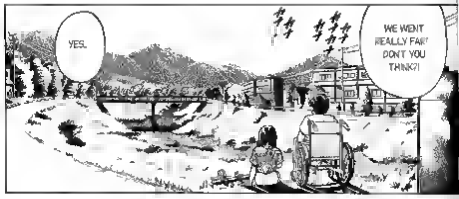
HAA
HAA
HAA
SAT-
SUKI!!!

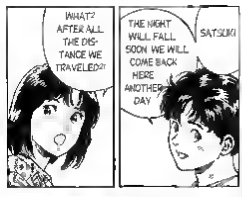
SAT-
SUKI!!!
小型的大冒險

CHAPTER 9. THE JUNIOR ADVENTURERS



HAHAHA...
FHF-
HALLHH!
(KAZUKI!
FINALLY!)
HEHE
MAKE ONE
(TAKE ONE!)
♡
DON'T LAUGH
AT E. WAK.
DON'T LAUGH
AT ME! QUICK!
IT'S
COLD!
BOUT TO
MET T ALL.
I'M ABOUT
TO LET IT
FALL!
HEHE
PFF


YES.
WE WENT REALLY FAR! DON'T YOU THINK?!


WHAT? AFTER ALL THE DIS-TANCE WE TRAVELED?!
THE NIGHT WILL FALL SOON WE WILL COME BACK HERE ANOTHER DAY
SATSUKI

WE'LL SEARCH A LITTLE MORE

RIGHT NOW MY LEGS ARE FINE AND AS LONG AS WE STAY NEAR THE RIVER, WE CAN'T GET LOST
IN THE DARK, WE'LL HAVE A HARD TIME FINDING OUR WAY BACK AND I'M WORRIED A LITTLE BIT ABOUT OUR LEGS.
ON TOP OF THAT, IT'LL BE EASIER TO FIND THE LIGHT PLUMES IF IT'S DARK

TATSUYA
!!
HAA
HAA
HAA

DO THE LIGHT FLOWERS' TELL YOU ANYTHING?
HUH?
YESTERDAY SATSUKI TOLD ME A STORY HER GRANDMOTHER HAD TOLD HER
TO SEE NIGHT FALL OVER A CITY I DON'T KNOW I FIND THAT EXITING!
YES! FOR ME THAT'S A GREAT ADVENTURE.
NOT YOU?

TODAY I'M FEELING A JOY AND AN EMOTION THAT I HAVEN'T FELT FOR A LONG TIME! AND ALL THAT BECAUSE OF YOU SATSUKI
I ALMOST NEVER GO OUT FROM THE REHABILITATION CENTER.
!!
YOU SAW THAT FUNNY PANEL?
パトリッシュ
THAT'S TRUE!
WHAT A STRANGE NAME

PAH
DARK THE ROAD AND THE RIVER ARE SPLIT TING UP!

ALRIGHT LET'S GO
MAYBE IF WE FOLLOW THE ROAD WE'LL JOIN BACK THE RIVER AGAIN
WHAT DO WE DO?

YOU THINK THEY WENT TO SEARCH FOR THOSE FLOWERS?

WE'VE GOT'TA SEARCH FOR THEM NEAR THE RIVER!
SHE MUST THINK THAT IF HE SEES THEM, HE'LL BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN!

BUT... IT'S ONLY A STORY THAT MY GRAND-MOTHER MADE UP!
MAYBE... BUT YOUR SISTER THINKS IT'S TRUE. SHE MUST HAVE WANTED TO SHOW THEM TO KAZUKI

WHAT?
THAT'S WHAT I'LL ASK HIM.
YEAH BUT WHICH WAY?? UPSTREAM OR DOWNSTREAM?

AHH... HIM?
YES, IT'S HIM. THAT'LL TELL US WHERE SATSUKI IS.

I TOLD YOU THAT TREE'S ALWAYS WATCHING OVE SATSUKI.
HE'S ALWAYS IN "CONTACT" WITH HER. WHEREVER SHE IS AND WHATEVER SHE DOES, HE KNOWS ABOUT IT.
DAMN...! I SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF IT SOONE...
BUT... WAIT A SECOND! HOW CAN A TREE THAT IS HERE KNOW WHERE SHE IS THERE?!!

YOU... YOU'RE CRIME?

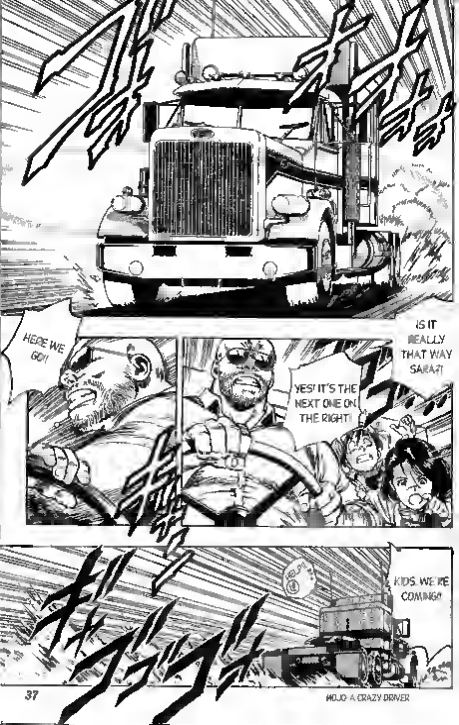
THERE SHE IS!

WE BETTER GO BACK TO WHERE THE RIVER AND THE ROAD SPLIT

HMM.

WE SHOULD HAVE TURNED THE OTHER WAY AT THE LAST SET OF CROSS-ROADS
DARN! STILL NO TRACE OF THE R VER. ON TOP OF THAT I THINK WE WERE ALREADY HERE BEFORE.

OUCH.


HERE WE GO!!
YES! IT'S THE NEXT ONE ON THE RIGHT!
IS IT REALLY THAT WAY SARA?!
KIDS, WE'RE COMING!!

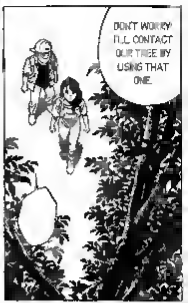
I CONFESS THAT I'M COMPLETELY LOST. AND YOU, SATSUKI?
DAMN IT'S NOT THE WAY EITHER
SATSUKI! WHAT'S WRONG?!
YOUR LEGS ARE HURTING YOU? IS THAT IT?! WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME SOONER?!!
IT... IT'S NOTHING... I JUST NEED TO CATCH MY BREATH A LITTLE.
I'M SORRY.

IT CAME FROM OVER THERE... WE FINALLY FOUND THE RIVER AGAIN!
CAN YOU HEAR IT? IT SOUNDS LIKE RUNNING WATER!

WE'LL BE ABLE TO GO HOME BY FOLLOWING THE RIVER THE OTHER WAY
LET'S CATCH OUR BREATH A BIT AND THEN WE'LL MOVE ON!

I'LL BE OKAY
SATSUKI, GET SOME REST FIRST!
SATSUKI AND KAZUKI PASSED THIS WAY!
IT'S HERE! THIS IS THE PLACE THAT THE TREE SHOWED ME!
BUT WHERE ARE THEY NOW? WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE TREE AND ASK HIM!!

I'LL ASK THIS TREE TO TALK TO OUR TREE AND ASK HIM WHERE SATSUKI IS.
THE PLANTS HAVE A VERY SOPHISTICATED WAY OF COMMUNICATING. THEY ARE ABLE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER, WHATEVER THE DISTANCE. A LITTLE LIKE TELEPATHY



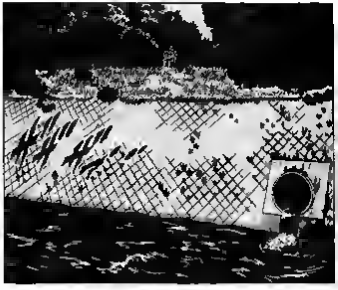
HOJO HE FEELS A LITTLE STUPID

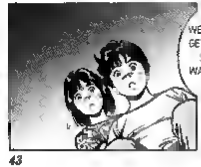
ウァァァ…

WE MUST HURRY! THEY LOST THEIR WAY AND ARE VERY TIRED!!

IS SATSUKI ALRIGHT?
I FOUND THEM! THEY'RE NOT FAR FROM HERE.

THE RIVER! THERE IT IS FINALLY!
YES...




WE'LL HAVE TO GET CLOSER TO SEE WHICH WAY THE RIVER FLOWS?

DARN! IT'S TOO DARK! I DON'T SEE WHICH WAY THE WATER'S RUNNING!

WELL?
I DON'T SEE A THING! IT'S TOO DARK
LET'S GO A LITTLE CLOSER...
BE CAREFUL
OUAAAH-HHH!!
EH!!

CHAPTER 10: FULL OF SUNSHINE

WAAAH!
AAAAH!

THUD
THUD

OH...

SAT-
SUKI!

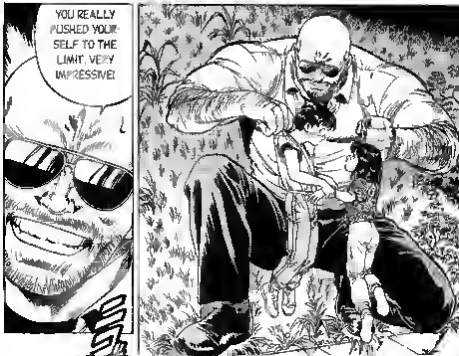
KAZUKI...

DID YOU FALL DOWN THERE?
KAZUKI... WHERE ARE YOU?

WAH!
KAZUKI!
HANG ON! I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!
SATSUKI
OH!
WAH!

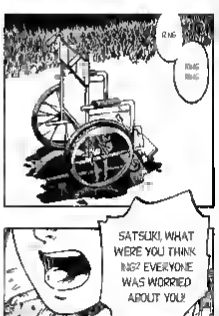
I...I CAN'T HANG ON...
MY HAND IS LOOS ENANG...
ARGH
OH...
COME ON..
OOH...
I MUST NOT LET GO
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SAVE SATSUKI NOW
OH!

WAH!
WAH!


YOU REALLY PUSHED YOURSELF TO THE LIMIT. VERY IMPRESSIVE!

SATSUKI!

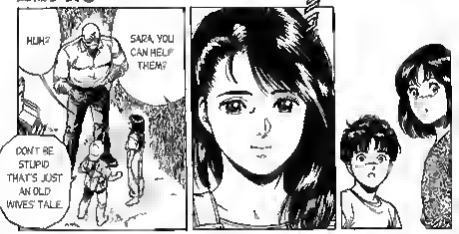
BROTHER DON'T YELL AT HIM. IT'S MY FAULT!
AND YOU, GOOD THING YOU'RE OK NOW! RUNNING OUT ALONE LIKE THAT! DON'T YOU REALIZE IT'S DANGEROUS?!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE FORCED KAZUKI TO COME WITH ME HERE.

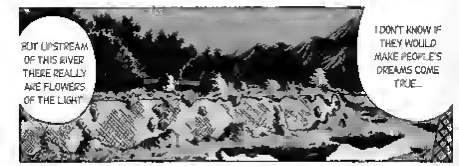

RING
RING RING
SATSUKI, WHAT WERE YOU THINKING? EVERYONE WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU!

IT'S MY FAULT...
NO

I'M SORRY, KAZUKI...
NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE TO ME.

KAZUKI
I'M SORRY SATSUKI...
I SHOULD NOT GIVE UP ON WORKING HARD AND JUST DEPEND ON THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT
HUH?
AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU!
BUT I FEEL THAT I FOUND SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT
BUT THANK YOU! EVEN THOUGH WE DIDN'T FIND THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT
DO YOU TWO WANT TO SEE THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT?
?.....


HUH?
SARA, YOU CAN HELP THEM?
DON'T BE STUPID! THAT'S JUST AN OLD WIVES' TALE.

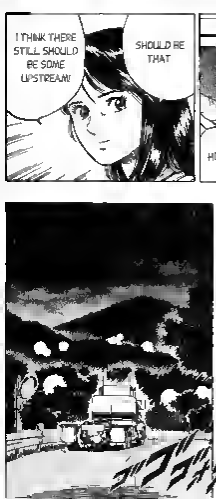

I DON'T KNOW IF THEY WOULD MAKE PEOPLE'S DREAMS COME TRUE...
BUT UPSTREAM OF THIS RIVER THERE REALLY ARE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT!

SO ARE YOU TWO COMING?
SINCE WE'VE COME HERE ALREADY, LET'S GO SEE. BUT FIRST CONTACT THEIR FAMILIES!
HMM. OK.

HEY SARA, ARE YOU SURE THIS WILL BE ALRIGHT?
ゴゴゴゴ

I THINK THERE STILL SHOULD BE SOME UPSTREAM!
SHOULD BE THAT

DON'T WORRY THE TREE TOLD ME ABOUT IT
HUM?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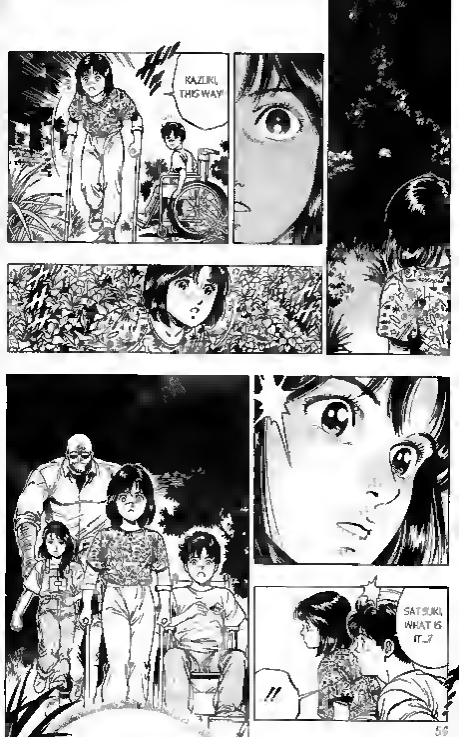
THROUGH THE NETWORK OF TREES THE TREES UPSTREAM HAVE ALSO TOLD ME THE LOCATION OF THE FLOWERS!

RING RING RING
RING
RING RING
...
HERE SHOULD BE AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE!
RING
RING RING
RING RING
RING
RING RING
FLOWERS DON'T GET HOARSE! NO NOISES NO RAIN AWAY
WHY DO WE HAVE TO BE QUIET?
SHH QUIET DON'T BE SO NOISY
I DON'T SEE ANY FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT THE STORY MUST BE A LIE.
!?


KAZUKI, THIS WAY!
SATSUKI, WHAT IS IT...?
//

OH...
EVEN IF ONE...
LOOK AROUND YOU!
THEY... THEY EXIST
FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT!?
OH...

HMM.. HMM..
KAZUKI.. KAZUKI
ARE FIRE FLIES!
THE LIGHTS..
SO THESE ARE THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT SARA
HAHA..
OH
FIREFLIES.. ARE THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT
YES

SOME TIME AGO THERE MUST HAVE BEEN FIRE-FLIES DOWN-STREAM TOO...

THEY'RE BEAUTI-FUL... I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH A WARM LIGHT!
HMM...

THE FIREFLIES SHOULD BE THIS RIVER'S... SYMBOL OF JOYFUL LIFE...
AS THE PEOPLE FROM LONG AGO, THE RIVER AND DAILY LIFE ARE CLOSELY CON-NECTED. THE RIVER SUPPORTED A BOUNTIFUL LIFE.

THIS USED TO BE A BEAUTIFUL AND CLEAR RIVER. BUT THEN THE DIRTY WATER FROM EVERYDAY LIVES AND THE POLLUTED WATER FROM FACTORIES DESTROYED THE RIVER SO THAT FIREFLIES COULD NOT LIVE.

SHE HOPES THAT THIS RIVER CAN RETURN TO ITS FORMER BEAUTY AND CLARITY.
YES, SATSUKI'S GRANDMOTHER CALLED THESE JOY-BRINGING FIREFLIES THE FLOWERS OF THE LIGHT AND MADE A STORY TO TELL YOU ABOUT THEM...

SATSUKI AND KAZUKI
SARA

LOOK! THEY SLEEP SO PEACEFULLY!
HAHAHA... THESE TWO FINALLY FOUND THE FLOWERS OF LIGHT SO THEY RELAXED AND FELL ASLEEP!

THE ADVEN TURE I HAD MADE ME UNDERS TAND
THERE ARE MANY UNKNOWNS WAITING FOR ME TO DO!

I MUST KEEP AT IT
I MUST WORK HARD!

AND SO RIGHT NOW!
OVERCOME ALL OBSTA CLES!

I'M JUST A STEP AWAY!!

BEFORE I LOCKED MYSELF IN A TINY WORLD NEVER HAVING OPENED MY EYE
TO SEE THIS BOUNDLESS AND BEAUTI FUL WORLD

艷陽少女

CHAPTER 11:
A SEEMINGLY FAMILIAR AUTUMN SUN

MORNING!
MORNING!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...

YOU FINISHED YOUR SUMMER WORK?
THERE WAS SUMMER WORK?
MORNING!
THESE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE JUST LIKE ME 10 YEARS AGO

ANTI-GO FROM TODAY ON FOR TWO WEEKS

EVERY SCHOOL HAS AN ATMOSPHERE THAT PEOPLE CANNOT FORGET.
THIS ATMOSPHERE MAKES ME NOSTALGIC.
.....?
NEVER SEEN. AM I NOT A TEACHER HERE...?
WHO IS HE?
TATSUYA WHY'RE YOU STANDING THERE?
OH?
HI, SARA!
HEY!

SAKURA

WAH!
HER FACE
THE LEAVES ARE IN THE WAY. CAN'T SEE HER FACE.
LOOK, THERE'S A STRANGER SITTING IN THE SAKURA TREE.
SAKURA?
HE JUST SAID, SAKURA?
STRANGER?

CARELESS PERSON. SERVES HIM RIGHT TO FALL DOWN.
THIS IS HORRIBLE. THE TREE'S BRANCHES ARE BROKEN
OUCH
WAAAAA-AAAAAAH!

DON'T YOU KNOW THAT?
A SAKURA TREE'S BRANCHES CAN'T GROW BACK AFTER THEY'RE BROKEN, YOU IDIOT!

ばっ
THE VOICE !?
WHAT !?
OH,

SHE'S... SHE'S GONE!

すぅ

HA
THAT WAS 10 YEARS AGO.
HA... HOW CAN IT BE POSSIBLE?
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG WITH MY HAIR?
PERVERT !?
WHAT IS WITH THIS GUY?
HA HA HA HA
OH MY! I'M BEING TOO NOSTALGIC NOW!

SIGN. STAFF

SO YOU'RE GOING TO BE AN INTERN TEACHER HERE STARTING TODAY
職員室

I'M SAKURAI MAKI!
YES!
RELAX I WILL BE YOUR GUIDING TEACHER, COUNSELLOR FOR GRADE 4C KANEYA.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP THESE FOLLOWING TWO WEEKS

BEST IF YOU CHANGE RIGHT NOW BECAUSE THERE'S A WITCH IN THAT CLASS
IF I WERE ASKED TO BE THE HOMEROOM TEACHER OF GRADE 4C, I WOULD REFUSE FOR SURE I'M NOT TRYING TO SCARE YOU
POOR GUY
AW!

IT'S ONLY TWO WEEKS BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO REMEMBER ALL THE STUDENTS FACES
UNDERSTOOD!
OH? IGNORING MY ADVICE?
DON'T MIND HIM MRS. OOSHIMA IS A LITTLE OUT OF IT RECENTLY
WHAT?
THIS IS THE LIST OF STUDENTS IN YOUR CLASS

10 中村 貴子
11 西九条 紗羅
NISHIKIJOU...
SARA!!
GOOD MORNING, MAKU!
SARA...
SARA! MR. NISHIKIJOU GOOD MORNING~!

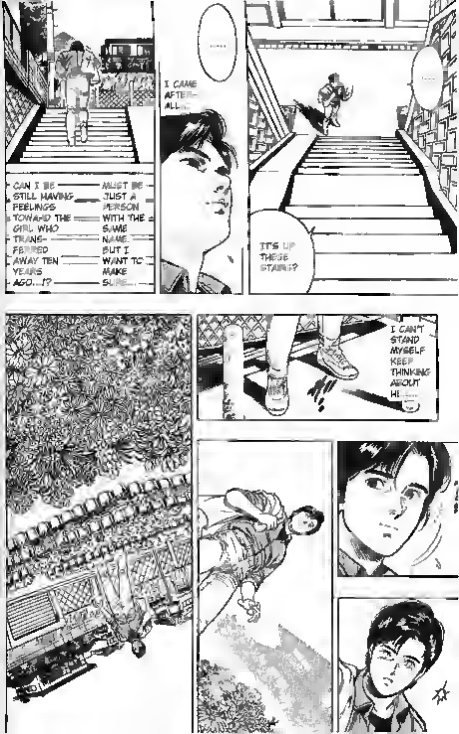
HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE HEARTS OF THE PLANTS...
SHE MADE ME UNDERSTAND PLANTS
SAIRA... MY CLASSMATE FOR ONE MONTH... AND THE FIRST GIRL I LOVED...
AN UNFORGETTABLE GIRL THERE'S ACTUALLY SOMEONE WITH THE SAME NAME HERE
SHE WAS A SPECIAL GIRL WHO COULD UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS OF PLANTS
SAIRA.
MR. SAKURAI PLEASE BEGIN TAKING ATTENDANCE
ALRIGHT..
OH! OK
LET'S BEGIN
INOUE

WHAT IF THAT SARA IS REALLY IN THIS CLASS?
SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE TO PICK ON
I'M AFRAID TO LOOK AT THE STUDENTS FACES
THAT'S SO CUTE!
HE'S VERY NERVOUS!
I KNOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE BUT I STILL DON'T DARE TO LIFT MY HEAD
HE'S NOT EVEN LIFTING UP HIS HEAD
PRESENT!
UMM... ZAWA
PRESENT!
HOW... HOW CAN IT BE?
THAT SARA... IN THIS CLASS...
NISHI... KUJOU.
SARA...!
5 加小
PRESENT!
NAKAMURA
NISHI... NISHI...
本 木 村 真弓
土屋 喜子
10 中村 貴子
11 西九条 紗羅

HUH?
TAT-SUYA
DIDN'T COME TO CLASS!
SHE WAS HERE JUST NOW, TACHI-BANA
NISHI-KUJOU SARA?
....?

.....
OK
HAWK?
SHE SKIPPED AGAIN?
SHE'S NOT A BAD STUDENT. SHE JUST SKIPS CLASS A LOT... CONTINUE!

SARA...
THE NAME IS MAKING ME RESTLESS... WHAT KIND OF A GIRL IS SHE!?
HAH?! HE'S THE INTERN TEACHER?
NO-GAMI!
PRESENT
BUT HE SPEAKS STRANGE WHEN HE WAS CALLING S...A'S NAME...
BAD FEELING


CAN I BE STILL HAVING FEELINGS TOWARD THE GIRL WHO TRUNG-FED AWAY TEN YEARS AGO...!?
MUST BE JUST A PERSON WITH THE SAME NAME BUT I WANT TO MAKE SURE...
I CAME AFTER ALL...
IT'S UP THESE STAIRS?
I CAN'T STAND MYSELF KEEP THINKING ABOUT HI...

THIS IS THE SAME AS THAT DAY...
IMPOSSIBLE!

WELCOME! HAVE A LOOK AROUND!

OH
OH

SARA
...
DAE DAN!
OH NO! A CUSTOMER JUST...
WHAT
ARE YOU OK!?
...
I''S REALLY YOU!'' I'VE MISSED YOU SO MUCH!
SARA
SARA
HMM
CUSTOMER SIR ARE YOU OK?
WHERE AM I?

HELLO MISTER!
LONG TIME NO SEE!
HMM...
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? I PASSED OUT?
HMM ...?
YOU ARE THE FIRST PERSON WHO IS NOT SCARED AFTER SEEING ME FOR THE FIRST TIME!
HUH?
SO BRIGHT ...
HAHAHA!
IT'S BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO LET THEM BEFORE
YOU MUST BE THE SAVIOR! OH...
OH NO!

YOU FINALLY WOKE UP!
OH YES
MY HEAD I'M STILL A LITTLE DIZZY
REST A LITTLE WAIT UNTIL YOU'RE MORE COMFORTABLE BEFORE LEAVING!

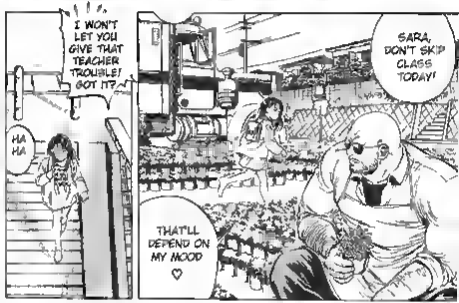
EVERYTHING BECAME FULL OF NOSTALGIA
TIME SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED
YOUR TEARS
WHY ?
HANDKER-CHIEF... HERE. I'LL LEND IT TO YOU
YOU'RE STRANGE... I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE CRYING BUT YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU'RE CRYING YOURSELF?
?
OH...
HUH ?

IS THERE SOMETHING ON MY FACE? WHY ARE YOU STARING AT ME?
YOU'RE A STRANGE PERSON
NOTHING...
WEIRD! WHY IS THAT INTERN TEACHER HERE? AND WITH SARA
A NOSTALGIC AND UNFORGETTABLE BREEZE...
OH... A SEEMINGLY FAMILIAR BREEZE BRUSHED BY MY EARS...

艶陽少女

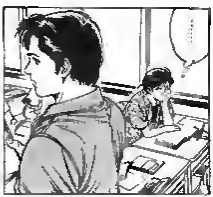
CHAPTER 12: SPY GAMES

I'M LEAV-ING!


I WON'T LET YOU GIVE THAT TEACHER TROUBLE! GOT IT?
HA HA
SARA, DON'T SKIP CLASS TODAY!
THAT'LL DEPEND ON MY MOOD ♡

TATSUYA —?

HUH? HOME VISIT BY THE TEACHER!?
YES, BECAUSE I KEEP SKIPPING CLASSES. I'M A PROBLEM STUDENT SO HE CAME TO FIND OUT WHY
THAT TEACHER IS QUITE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HIS STUDENTS
...
OH YES, WHEN YOU CAME TO MY PLACE THAT TIME WHY DID YOU LEAVE WITHOUT SAYING HI?
HMM. HMM.
BECAUSE... YOU TWO SEEMED WEIRD AT THE TIME
CRYING AND STUFF
SAKURAI MABU...? YESTERDAY DIDN'T I HEAR HIM SAY MAKI?
...?
SO WHEN HE SAW ALL THOSE FLOWERS HE STARTED CRYING! SO FUNNY!
HUH!?
OH THAT! HE'S ALLERGIC TO POLLEN
POLLEN ALLERGY
MR SAKURAI MABU!



*INTERN TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS NERVOUS

SIGN: STAFF OFFICE

SNEAK-ING
SNEAK-ING

WHY DOES HE HAVE TO GET NEAR SARA?
I MUST FIND HIS TRUE IDENTITY!
SINCE HE FOUND ME TAKING NOTICE OF HIM, I MUST STRIKE FIRST!

HUH?
HIDING HIS REAL NAME... VERY SUSPI-CIOUS
Sakurai Maki
YES! HE USED A FALSE NAME TO GET NEAR SARA!
!?

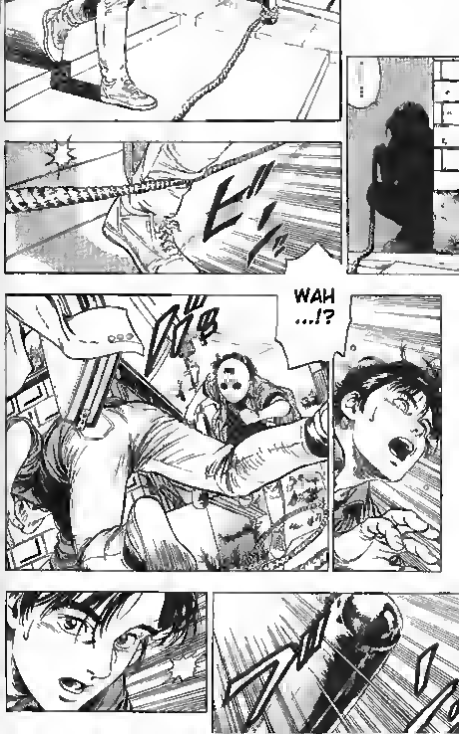
WHAT!?
Research on the "heart" of plants and "feelings" its existence and significance
秘
WHO IS HE ...!?
HE MUST BE A SPY!
OH!
THIS IS...? WHY WOULD AN INTERN TEACHER DO SUCH RESEARCH!?
THE POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HUMAN BEINGS AND PLANTS THROUGH THE HEART!
THE MANY USES OF PLANTS' DIFFERENT ABILITIES - PEACEFUL AND MILITARY USES!?
USING ELECTRIC CURRENTS TO DETECT PLANTS' FEELINGS! ABOUT PLANTS' SENSITIVITY TO ELECTRICITY!
パラ パラ

HA HA HA HA HA!!!
OH...
OH!!
I'VE READ SOMEWHERE... EVERY COUNTRY HA A SECRET ORGANIZATION...
LIKE SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENA INVESTIGATION! HE'S A MEMBER OF THAT GROUP!
YOU ARE THE SPECIMEN. MY ORGANIZATION NEEDS TO CONDUCT ITS RESEARCH... HAHA!
THAT ORGANIZATION MUST HAVE FOUND OUT ABOUT SATSUYA'S ABILITY! SO...
HELP! TATSUYA!
WHO'S THERE!?
TATSUYA...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
OH... MR. OOSHIRO
OH, NOTHING. I'M PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK WITH FRIENDS...
OH... IT'S TATSUYA!
I'VE BEEN CAUGHT!
OH NO
I'LL BE KILLED
WHAT'S HE DOING...?
OH! HEY!
SORRY! GOT TO GO!
A PERSON THAT CAN BE TRUSTED COMPLETELY!
YES! THERE'S ONLY ONE PERSON!
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHO CAN I TURN TO?
I MUST THINK OF SOME THING!
HAA
HAA
HAA
HAA
THIS IS BAD! SARA HAS BEEN TARGETTED BY THE ORGANIZATION!

OH TATSU-YA?
SO IT'S YOUR TURN TO SKIP CLASS TODAY? THAT'S NOT GOOD. GO BACK TO SCHOOL!
NO TIME TO TALK ABOUT THAT NOW!
HE'S A VERY NICE PERSON!
TATSUYA, WHY'RE YOU SAYING THAT!?
OH!
AND VELOCITY IS IN
HE'S A BAD GUY!
THE INTERN TEACHER WHO CAME HERE YES-TERDAY!
OH...!?
CAN'T GET THROUGH TO HIM AT ALL...
OH... THERE'S ACTUALLY SUCH A NICE PERSON IN THIS WORLD!
WHEN HE SAW ME, HE DIDN'T EVEN TWITCH AN EYEBROW AND JUST SMILED
NO! THAT'S TO TRICK YOU.
HE HAS A HEART AS PURE AS THE BUDDHA!

THE FRIGHTENING POWER OF THE ORGANIZATION!
NO... HER FATHER HAS FALLEN INTO THE ENEMY'S TRAP!
I MUST PROTECT SARA!
I'LL SAVE SARA EVEN IF I HAVE TO SACRIFICE MY LIFE!
BUT, I CAN ONLY RELY ON MYSELF NOW!
CAN IT BE THAT I'M THE ONLY ONE TO STOP THE POWERFUL ORGANIZATION?
CAN I LAST TWO WEEKS? HAHA...
OH... WHAT A NERVOUS DAY! SO TIRED!
AFTER SCHOOL...


WAH
...!?

SHUT UP! IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE, DON'T RETURN TO THE SCHOOL! GOT IT?
W-WHO ARE YOU!?
TAKE THIS!
I WON'T LET YOUR ORGANIZATION TAKE SARA AWAY!
ARE YOU DEAF!?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!?
HMM
!!

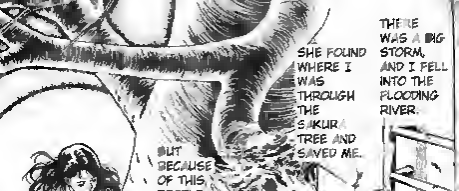
YOUR NAME IS ON HERE!
WAH! WHY DO I PUT MY NAME ON EVERYTHING!?
THE SAME THING HAS HAPPENED BEFORE...
ARGH! HOW'D YOU KNOW IT'S ME!?
STOP, TATSUYA!
THE FRIGHTENING INVESTIGATING DIVISION OF THE ORGANIZATION!
SORRY, SARA... I CAN'T PROTECT YOU ANYMORE...
SINCE YOU'VE FOUND MY IDENTITY, DO WHAT YOU WILL WITH ME!
SARA'S... ABILITY...!?
ORGANIZATION? WHAT?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIE ANYMORE! I KNOW YOUR ORGANIZATION HAS TARGETED SARA'S ABILITY!
WHAT ARE YOU MUMBLING ABOUT?

HA...
YOU READ TOO MANY COMIC BOOKS!
HAHA... YOU HAVE A SCARY IMAGINATION!
THEN... YOU'RE NOT A SPY FROM THE ORGANIZATION...

.....
AT THE TIME, I WAS ABOUT YOUR AGE...

IN MY BACK-YARD, THERE WAS A DYING SAKURA TREE. SHE HEALED THE TREE, AND SAVED MY LIFE!!
SARA TAUGHT ME MANY WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT PLANTS.

LIFE!?
SAVED SENSEI'S


THERE WAS A BIG STORM, AND I FELL INTO THE FLOODING RIVER.
SHE FOUND WHERE I WAS THROUGH THE SAKURA TREE AND SAVED ME.
BUT BECAUSE OF THIS, PEOPLE FOUND OUT ABOUT HER ABILITY...
SO SARA LEFT OUR CITY
AND SARA AND I HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER SINCE THEN...

I...

SENSEI HAVE ALWAYS...
WANTED TO SEE SARA AGAIN?
I SWORE I WOULD BECOME A TEACHER, AND TEACH ALL THE CHILDREN ABOUT HOW WONDERFUL PLANTS ARE.
LATER, I BECAME INTERESTED IN THE HEART OF PLANTS. I WENT TO COLLEGE BECAUSE I WANTED TO RESEARCH ABOUT IT. ALL MY FRIENDS THOUGHT I WAS WEIRD.

WHY DOESN'T SARA TALK ABOUT HERSELF?
I WAS SHOCKED SHE IS STILL THE CHILD SHE WAS BEFORE.
I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES
OF COURSE BUT
SHE WANTS TO!
BUT— I THINK SHE CAN'T!
SHE REMAINED A CHILD, WHILE I BECAME AN ADULT...
ISN'T THAT... TOO CRUEL!?
YOU'RE THE SAME?
SO YOU KEPT HER ABILITY SECRET... AND WANTED TO FIGHT THE "ORGANIZATION" WHO THREATENED HER!

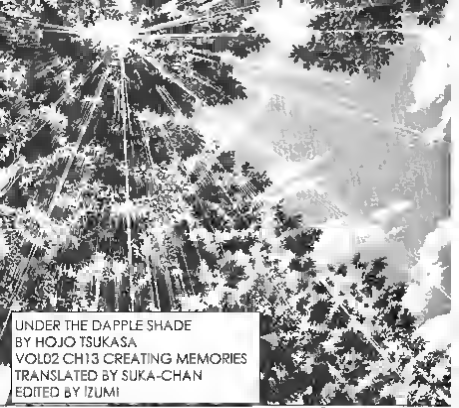
WE'RE THE SAME COMPAN-IONS!

HMM

I HEARD IT ALL! ♡
HEH ♡

AHHH IT'S SOOOO NICE HERE
THE AIR IS SO FRESH!
AND THE GREEN LEAVES UNDER THE SUN!
THE SKY IS SO BLUE!
I DON'T LIKE SCHOOL, BUT I LIKE AUTUMN SCHOOL TRIPS, TATSUYA, IT'S THE SAME WITH YOU TOO, ISN'T IT?

UNDER THE DAPPLE SHADE
BY HOJO TSUKASA
VOL02 CH13 CREATING MEMORIES
TRANSLATED BY SUKA-CHAN
EDITED BY IZUMI


BUT TODAY WE HAD TO MEET AT 7AM SO I DIDN'T GET TO EAT ANY BREAKFAST
WHAT IS IT WITH YOU? THAT FACE YOU ARE PULLING IS RUINING THIS LOVELY WEATHER!
.....
どよん
ER ..
#1 AM SO HUNGRY I CAN'T WALK ANYMORE
SOUND: TUMMY RUMBLING

THAT'S RIGHT BUT... SAKURAI SENSEI
TATSUYA, WHAT'S WRONG WALK FOR A BIT MORE AND WE WILL BE THERE!
OYOY! WAIT FOR ME WALK SLOWLY
THAT'S YOU OWN FAULT! NOBODY TOLD YOU TO SLEEP TILL SO LATE! IT'S YOUR FAULT! I AM GOING TO WALK ON!
?
YOU ARE SO MEAN. !
OF COURSE I WILL BE LIVELY WHEN I AM BEING SURROUNDED BY LIVELY TREES HAHA.
SARA IS SO ACTIVE TODAY TOTALLY DIFFERENT COMPARED TO WHEN SHE WAS IN THE CLASSROOM!
@ ANYWHERE OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL SHE IS VERY HAPPY
OH YEAH, SPIKE! YOU HAVE HARDLY SPOKEN TO SARA FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS?
HMM.
IT'S SO QUICK! INCLUDING TODAY THERE S ONLY TWO MORE DAYS LEFT OF TRAINING
.....

TWO MORE DAYS AND YOU WILL HAVE TO PART WITH SARA AGAIN, AREN'T YOU SAD?
YOU'RE JUST FAKING BEING HAPPY
SENSEI, YOU DON'T WANT SARA TO BE UPSET, SO YOU DON'T TALK TO HER ABOUT YOUR QUESTIONS... I UNDERSTAND, BUT IS THIS REALLY ALRIGHT?
AHH... WHEN SHE ARRIVES IN FRONT OF ME, I AM NERVOUS... AFRAID THAT I WILL ACCIDENTALLY TALK ABOUT THE PAST...
THIS...IS INEVITABLE
AND THAT WILL BE ENOUGH...!
AT LEAST RIGHT NOW I CAN SEE THE HAPPY SARA.
USING THE TIME OF THIS TRIP, LET'S THINK OF SOMETHING! ISN'T YOU THINK IT WILL BE BETTER THAN NOT DOING ANYTHING AT ALL? I WILL HELP YOU!
HUH?
I WILL AT LEAST CREATE MEMORIES OF SARA AND SENSEI ALONE TOGETHER!
THAT'S IT!!

HEHEHE! WE ARE FRIENDS!
IT'S NOTHING! NOT AS GOOD AS YOU HAVE SAID
THANK YOU! YOU ARE A REALLY GOOD PERSON...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I NEEDED A STUDENT TO CHEER ME ON.
HAHA. HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S IN A BAD MOOD
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT GUY
WALKING SO SLOW-Y
WALK FASTER !!!
OY!OY! TEACHER IN TRAINING AMI! TATSUYA AT THE PACE YOU ARE WALKING BY THE TIME YOU GET THERE, IT WILL BE DARK!
DURING THIS TRIP, SOMETHING WILL DEFINITELY HAPPEN AND I WILL GET THE EVIDENCE TO KICK SAHA OUT OF SCHOOL!
GRRR... SINCE THAT TEACHER IN TRAINING APPEARED, I THOUGHT I WOULD GET SOMETHING ABOUT SAHA, BUT I HAVE FOUND NOTHING!
?
AH!
WA!

OK OK!
YEP, COMING RIGHT AWAY
SAKURAI SENSEI LETS PLAY VOLLEY BALL!
COME ON!
YES! YES!
LET'S EAT LUNCH TOGETHER
HERE THIS IS FOR YOU
WANT TO EAT THIS?
SENSEI, COME PLAY SKIPPING ROPES!
OK, COMING!
LOOK HE'S BLUSHING!
THAT TEACHER IS SO POPULAR AMONGST THE GIRLS!
WE WERE FIRST
SENSEI, YOU ARE SO BAD WE WANT!
OK! OK!

IF THIS GOES ON ANY LONGER, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO BE ALONE WITH SARA...
OK
OK
NO ONE KNOWS HIS PAIN
I WILL HAVE TO DISTURB YOU!
HI!
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!
COME, QUICKLY!
YAY!
SENSEI, COME AND EAT WITH US TOO!
AHH
TOILET.
HM. SARA. WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
PHEW. FINALLY I CAN TALK TO SARA!
NERVOUS

OK OK

SENSEI, CONCENTRATE LISTENING! AND THEN ...
AND SO THE ENDING IS ...
UH LUCKY PERSON

WASN'T SHE GOING TO THE TOILET...?
HUH? WHY IS SHE GOING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE FOREST?

HEH HEH ... THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD CHANCE!

OK... OK OK...
SENSEI, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG, COME QUICKLY!
WHERE YOU TAKING HER?
WHAT YOU DOING?

AHH... THIS IS SO COMFY... FULL OF WARMTH!
IT'S LIKE I CAN BECOME FRIENDS WITH THIS FOREST!

HMMM, BUT THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE TO CREATE MEMORIES!
BUT WHAT HAS SARA COME TO THE FOREST ALONE FOR?
THANK YOU, FINALLY SAVED!
...
LOOK
FOUND HER, THIS WAY! SENSEI!
SHOULD BE HERE COME ON, COME ON!

TATSUYA, GENGEL... WHAT IS IT?
SARA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ALONE?
?
WHAT IS SHE DOING?

OH!?
GAME? EH? SOUNDS FUN..
I WAS THINKING... SHOULD WE PLAY "THE NATURE GAME"!
ME?
WHAT IS HE THINKING?

IT'S NOT OFTEN THAT WE COME TO A FOREST STRANGE TO US
SO SHALL WE MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE FOREST?
YEP, SENSEI! YOU ARE VERY GOOD.
LET THE BODY AND THE FIVE FEATURES OF THE FACE SINK INTO THE TREES AND NATURE, ENJOY THE FEELING OF BEING TOGETHER AS ONE WITH THE NATURE!
IT'S A SIMPLE GAME OF SHARING WITH THE NATURE.
WHAT DO YOU DO?
FIRST EVERYONE LIE DOWN HERE...
HAHA.. OK!
SEEMS FUN, I WANT TO JOIN TO!
MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE TREES? YOU SOUND LIKE THE OWNER OF A FLOWER SHOP!
LAY ON THE GRASS PEACEFULLY, BUT THERE ARE OTHER METHODS...
LET THE SAA-SHAA SOUND OF THE WIND AND TREES ENTER YOUR EARS
EH? IS THIS IT?
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND RELAX

OH WOW IT'S THIS COMFY
HEH HEH. TATSUYA ALSO ENTERED THE NATURE MODE
SENSEI NOW SLOWLY OPEN YOUR FIVE FEATURES USE YOUR BODY TO FEEL THE
AHH... AHH...

MANGASCREENER

Hhoooo
.....
I CAN HEAR EVEN THE SMALLEST SOUNDS
IT SEEMS THAT I HAVE ALREADY COMBINED WITH THE NATURE, TREES, GRASSES AND SARA...
ALTHOUGH THE EYES ARE CLOSED BUT, I FEEL LIKE I COULD SEE THE CLOUDS MOVING ACROSS THE SKY
SLOWLY SURROUNDING THE WHOLE SKY!
MY BODY, SEEMS, TO BE FLOATING" THERE'S AN UNBELIEVABLE FEELING OF FLOATING!

I CAN SEE US LYING ON THE GRASS SLEEPING
WE ARE DOWN THERE...!?
EH.....?
!
HOW COULD I BE REALLY FLOATING IN THE SKY!?
IS IT A DREAM? THIS IS!?
THAT THAT IS...
#
0

BECOMING ONE WITH THE TREES AND TALK TO EACH OTHER ?
TOGETHER WITH THE TREES SINGING !!?
IS IT REALLY SARA !?
THAT IS SA. RA ?

IS THAT YOUR HEART...!? GROWN UP HEART...!!!
IS IT REALLY YOU!?
ワァァァン

AHHH IT IS REALLY YOU!
SARA SARA
SARA
WAS THAT...? A DREAM?
.....?
WAS REALLY CORNY WASN'T IT?

AHH
.....
N... IT SEEMS LIKE I WAS SLEEPING AND DREAMT
YEAH
WHAT?

.....

.....
YOU ARE SO ANNOYING.
WHERE ARE MY SPARE RIBS?
WHERE AM I
OI, DON'T STEAL MY SPARE RIBS!

HEHE! FILMED IT - THE WITCH THAT APPEARED OUT OF SARA'S BODY— WITH THESE PHOTOS AS EVIDENCE I CAN KICK HER OUT OF SCHOOL!
WHAT DID YOU DREAM ABOUT?

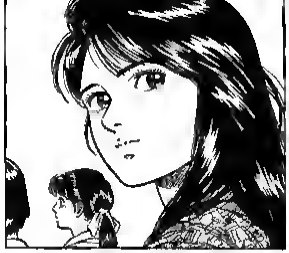
SORRY! SENSEI
.....
I ORIGINALLY... WANTED TO HELP TO CREATE WONDERFUL MEMORIES. IN THE END ALL OF US SEEMED FALL ASLEEP...
EH?
NO I ALREADY HAD WONDERFUL MEMORIES
AH AH AH !!
HOWCOME NONE OF THESE PICTURES DEVELOPED! I CAN'T USE ANY OF THESE TO GET HER KICKED OUT !
AND THAT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOUR HELP!
?
I FEEL I WAS TALKING TO THAT SARA!
I SAW THE GROWN UP SARA

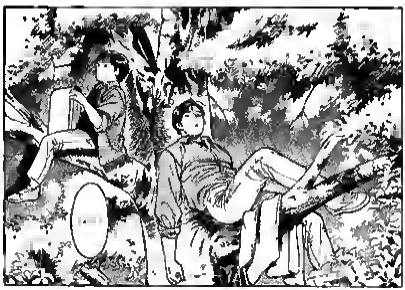
TRANSLATED BY SAKU-CHAN
EDITED BY DON
MANGASCREENER.COM

ANYTIME, ANYWHERE...

STAND---
TODAY, SENSEI SAKURAI WILL BE LEAVING OUR CLASS TO GO TO ANOTHER SCHOOL.
敬禮!!
4年3組
SENSEI SAKURAI, THANK YOU!
I NEED TO THANK YOU TOO.
PLEASE EXCUSE MY INEXPERIENCE AND THE TROUBLES I HAVE BOUGHT WITH ME...BUT, I AM VERY HAPPY!

Zzz...





AS SOON AS THE LESSON WAS OVER, SENSEI WAS LIKE A BALLOON WHICH HAS RUN OUT OF AIR. HE SAT THERE STARING LIKE HE HAD NO ENERGY...
Hm
Hm
Hm...
FINALLY ENDED...

IF YOU WEREN'T HERE, I WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO TELL SARA TRUTHFULLY ABOUT MY IDENTITY...
THE LAST TWO WEEKS RAN SO SMOOTHLY, WAS ALL THANKS TO YOUR HELP...
SENSEI... ARE YOU REGRETTING THAT YOU DIDNT TELL HER...

BUT, I CAN UNDERSTAND YOUR FEELINGS...
BECAUSE, YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SEE SARA, SO YOU ARE VERY UN-HAPPY

BOTH HURTING FROM THE FACT WE HAVE TO PART. MY HEART IS FILLED WITH QUESTIONS, WHY SHE IS STILL A CHILD?
EH?
IF ONLY I HAVEN'T SEEN THE GROWN UP SARA...

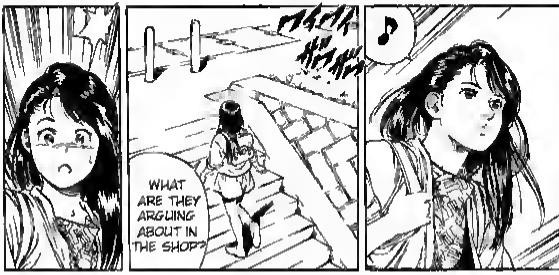
YEAH...
AND WE CAN'T ASK SARA...
NOTHING IS AS YET CLEARED, AND WE HAVE TO PART, IT'S...
IS IT BECAUSE SHE HAS THE SPECIAL POWERS, SO SHE CANNOT GROW?

WHAT IS IT THAT I HAVE TO DO?
Flower Garden
KOMOREBI IS OPEN
WITHOUT NOTICING I CAME HERE AGAIN..
.....
I PROBABLY CAN GET SARA'S WEAK POINT!
I WON'T GIVE UP! WHAT IS MAKING HIM LINGERING?
SEEMS LIKE HE'S SLEEPING WALKING TO SARA'S HOME!
HE'S DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE.
IT'S LIKE WHAT TATSUYA SAID, I CANT ASK SARA ...

BUT HOW SHOULD I ASK THIS KIND OF QUESTION?
YES.. YES.. IF I TELL HIM THE TRUTH...
MAYBE HE CAN TELL ME SARA'S SECRET!
UNCLES ON HIS OWN... SARA'S STILL NOT HOME?
I... WANT...
?
AHH... SORRY TO BOTHER...
YOU ARE SENSEI SAKURAI!
THIS MORNING I HEARD MY DAUGHTER SAY YOU ENDED YOUR PRACTICE!? THANKS FOR LOOKING AFTER HER, SOMETHING YOU WANT TO ASK?
AHH... REALLY..
NOW'S A GOOD CHANCE, SINCE SARA'S NOT HERE, ASK QUICKLY!

ME..?
UNCLE... DO YOU STILL REMEMBER...
OH..!?
AH! WHO'S THIS YOUNG MAN?
PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME...
HA
GOOD AFTERNOON! WE'VE COME!
AH... SO YOUNG!
I KNOW, MUST BE A NEW WORKER!
EH?
AHH... WELCOME!
WHAT IS IT?
HEY GIRLS, GOOD THING YOU PASSED BY, COME OVER HERE QUICKLY!
THEY HIRED A NEW WORKER! THIS ONE! A YOUNG MAN!
NO, HE'S...
AHH... HE IS! YOU CAN STILL RUN THE BUSINESS DID YOU GET SUCH A YOUNG MAN TO ATTRACT US HERE? YOU ARE SO ANNOYING!
HEHE, RATHER HANDSOME!
NO, HE'S NOT...
AH. ME...

NO, I WAS FIRST!
OH! THAT—
AH, YOU ARE SO BAD, I CAME HERE FIRST!
HOW... HOW DID IT TURN OUT TO BE LIKE THIS?
COME HELP ME CHOOSE SOME FLOWERS!
AHH— SUCH A HANDSOME MAN♡


WHAT ARE THEY ARGUING ABOUT IN THE SHOP?

EH.
.....
I WANT FIVE OF THIS TYPE! FIVE!
YOUNG MAN, I WANT TO BUY THIS!
OKAY! THANK YOU...
HURRY, I HAVE TO GO!
WAIT A MINUTE

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
I TOLD YOU ALREADY, SENSEI HAS HAYFEVER, WHAT IF HE FAINTS AGAIN?
SENSEI, GO INSIDE AND REST!
AHH..
EH?
AHH.. SARA!
AHH
DAD! WHAT DID YOU MAKE SENSEI DO?
GUY-IN-TRAINING IS ALONE WITH SARA..
OH--
NOT A NEW WORKER?
WHAT? SENSEI?
WHAT
AHHHH-HHH!!! PEERR-VVERRT !!
WHAT'S THIS?
HOW ABOUT I TAKE A LOOK INSIDE?
GOOD CHANCE SOMETHING WILL HAPPEN!
AH?

YAHHH-HHHHHH ..!?
WHERE'D HE GO?
WENT TO HIDE BEHIND THE TRUCK!
HOW COME IT TURNED OUT LIKE THIS?
ARE YOU ALRIGHT? YOU LOOK A BIT PALE... GO TO DAD'S BED AND REST! I'LL GO GET SOME DRINKS.
THANK YOU.
HM...
HE ESCAPED SO QUICKLY!
AH! HE VANISHED HE SHOULD BE AROUND HERE
WHEW!
HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO STAY HERE...?

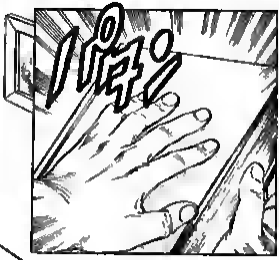
WAAH!
AHH !?
WHAT DID I COME HERE TO DO...
THE POWER OF THOSE WOMEN SURE IS SCARY...
EH?
REALLY, SO TRAGIC...
OUCH, IT HURTS!
For my dear
Time has stopped on our daughter
I believe that her time will restart
some day, so I write.
February, 1982
Nishikyo

For my dear...
March 1962
READING THIS DIARY, I WILL UNDERSTAND WHY S, RA HASN'T GROWN!
THIS IS... WHAT UNCLE WROTE, A DIARY ABOUT SARA!
DID I HEAR WRONG? I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING ...
.....
Kill...

SARA

ビビビ

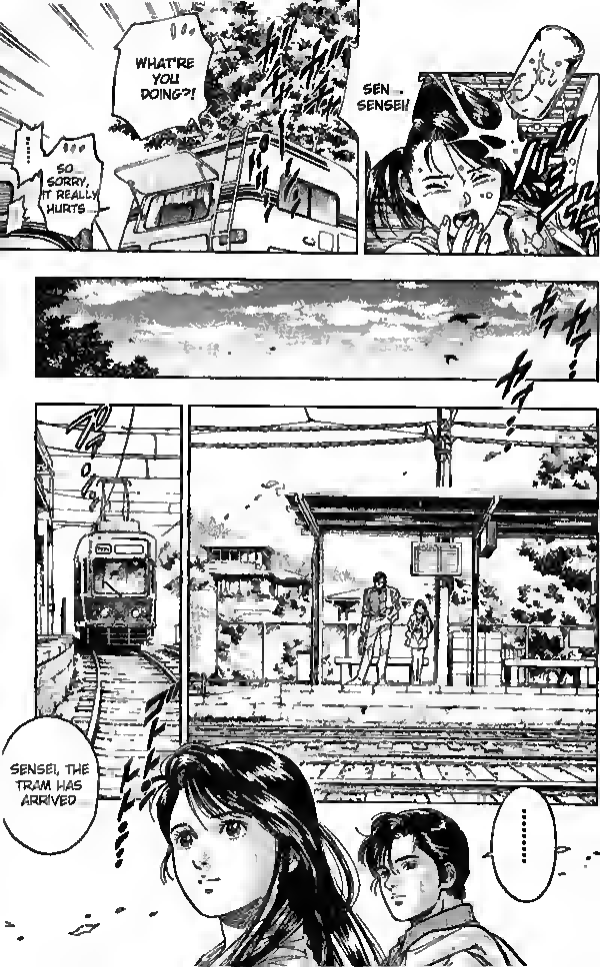
……

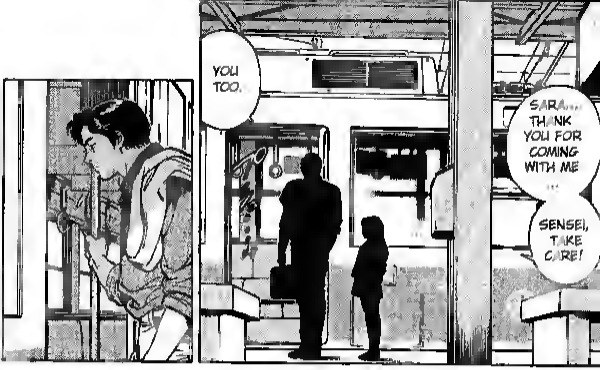

バサッ

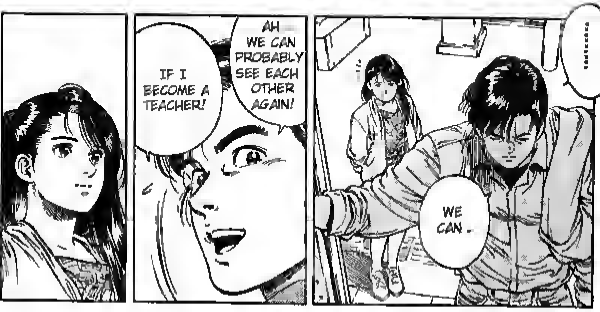
I MUSN'T... IF I LOOKED,
IT WOULD RUIN ALL MY FEELINGS TOWARDS SAR...!

SENSEI, I BROUGHT COLD DRINKS!
OOPS!!
OUCH! MY FINGER WAS SQUASHED!

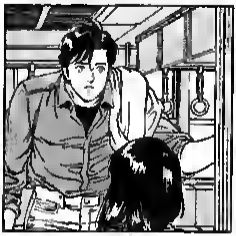
SARA IS SARA.. THAT'S ALRIGHT, ISN'T IT

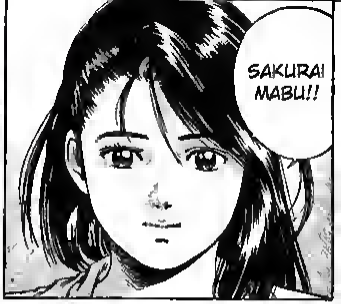

WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
SEN... SENSEI!
SO SORRY, IT REALLY HURTS
SENSEI, THE TRAM HAS ARRIVED
.....


YOU TOO.
SARA... THANK YOU FOR COMING WITH ME...
SENSEI, TAKE CARE!


IF I BECOME A TEACHER!
AH... WE CAN PROBABLY SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!
WE CAN.

IF WE DO MEET AT ANOTHER SCHOOL... DON'T FORGET TO GREET ME!
THAT...
BUT, AT THAT TIME...




SAKURA!
MABU!!

YOUR KINDNESS TOWARDS ME HAS MADE ME VERY HAPPY ...

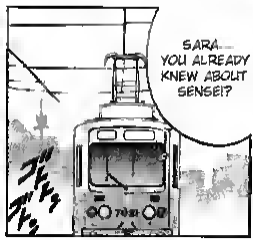
THANK YOU!

AH...
.....

SARA
!!

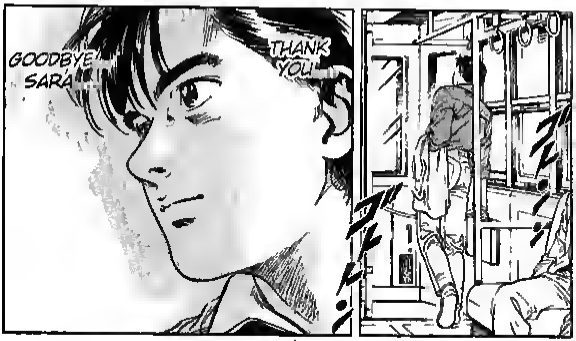
TATSUYA... YOU CAME TOO.
.....

YEAH...


SARA... YOU ALREADY KNEW ABOUT SENSEI?

I WAS AT HOME AND I SAW YOU WALKING TOWARDS THE STATION...
YEA

FROM THE WIND... AND THE SMELL OF THE TREES... THAT SOMEBODY I MISSED WOULD COME...
BEFORE HE CAME, I COULD SENSE...

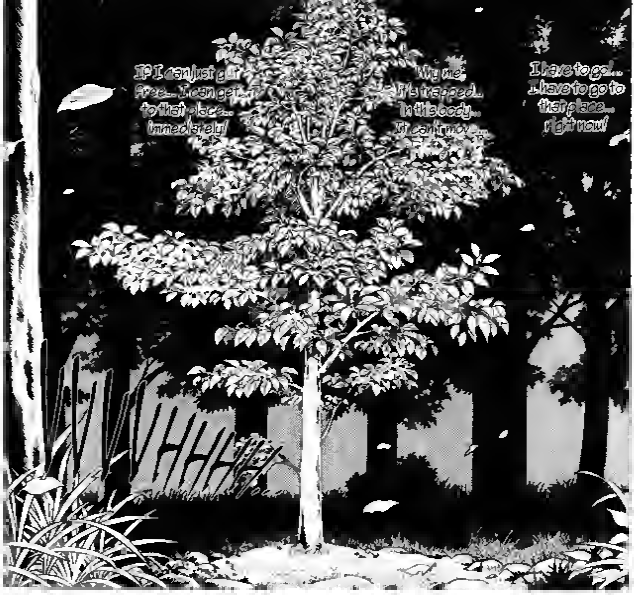

GOODBYE SARA
THANK YOU!

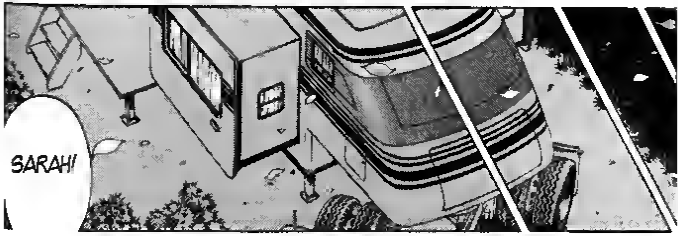
SAKURAI-SENSEI HAS LEFT...

AHH---
HELP ME
THERE'S A SENSE OF LINEASE IN MY CHEST... A CERTAIN SADNESS...
WATCHING HIS RETREATING SHADOW, I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT...

SCENE 15

THE BODY THIEF


If I can just get there... I can get to that place... Immediately!
My me! It's trapped... In the body... It can't move...
I have to go... ...have to go to that place... right now!
WWHHH



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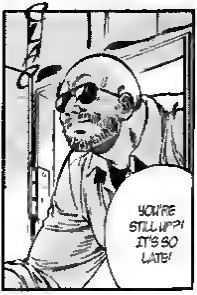
TRANSLATOR: TASHI
EDITOR: MEDIC
PROOFREADER: ANN-CHAN

...
SARAH?


YOU'RE STILL UP?! IT'S SO LATE!

OH NO, NOT AGAIN!

I STRICTLY TOLD HER NOT TO LEAVE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION!

BUT REGARDLESS, I CAN STILL FEEL ALL THIS SADNESS. I ALSO SENSE A PROFOUND FEELING OF HELPLESSNESS
WHAT ARE THESE WAVES I'M PEEKING? THEY'RE SO WEAK... ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLE
I WAS DISCOVERED!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUTSIDE?!
SARAH !!
I'LL TRY AND PUT MYSELF IN SYNC WITH THE ONE WHO IS GIVING ME THESE SIGNALS
IT'S DISTURBING
STOP MOCKING ME AND GET BACK INSIDE IMMEDIATELY!
HOW DID YOU NOTICE THAT I WAS ALL NUDE?
WHAT'S GOING ON, PAPA?
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT...
DON'T YOU EVEN THINK OF TRYING TO GET AROUND ME! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT IT'S WRONG FOR A YOUNG GIRL TO GO OUT IN THAT SORT OF APPEARANCE!!

BUT DAD... NO ONE SAW ME! AND IT'S NIGHT TIME, THE PERFECT TIME FOR ME TO GO OUT AND TALK WITH MY FRIENDS!
GREAT DANDELIONS!! SO WHEN WILL YOU STOP DOING WHATNOT TO YOUR HEAD?
MM
I WAS JUST AT THE BRINK OF SYNCHRONIZING WITH THE AUTHOR OF THE MESSAGE! I HAVE TO TRY AGAIN TOMORROW!
ABSOLUTELY NOT!!
I GOT A VERY DISTURBING MESSAGE TONIGHT..
AHHHHS...
ALRIGHT THEN, BE A GOOD GIRL AND GO TO SLEEP NOW, OKAY?
YES DAAAD!
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH ANY UNKNOWN TREES. UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, WITHOUT MY PERMISSION! IS THAT CLEAR?!
HAVE YOU COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN WHAT HAPPENED THE TIME YOU SYNCHRONIZED WITH THE OLD TREE FROM THE CEMETERY?
VLAN...
...

YOU'RE SURE IT'S HERE?
MORE OR LESS. THE SIGNAL WAS VERY WEAK.
...
NEXT TO THESE ROCKS. EVEN MY HOME LOOKS SMALL!
HAVE YOU SEEN THIS NEIGHBOURHOOD?! DO YOU REALLY THINK THE TREES HERE WOULD BE MISTREATED?!
GEE, SARAH, YOU REALLY HAVE A SICK CURIOSITY!
WELL, ME TOO, SINCE I'M FOLLOWING YOU.
THERE IT IS!
TAH
EH? SARAH!
IF I WERE A TREE, THIS WOULD BE THE BEST PLACE FOR ME TO LIVE!
Won't he shut up?

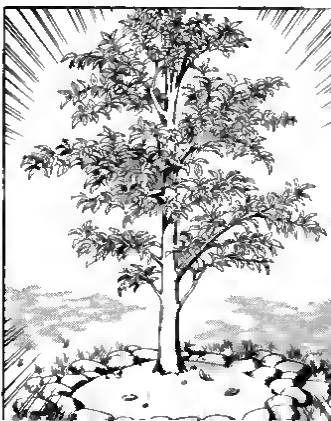
ALRIGHT.. LET'S GO!
I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS SORT OF THING BEFORE
THE GARDEN'S SO HUGE THAT YOU CAN'T EVEN SEE THE HOUSE!
...
LOOK! THERE'S NO PLAQUE ON THE HOUSE SO THAT MEANS NO ONE LIVES HERE ANYMORE!
WHAT? YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU WANT TO ENTER?!
THE PEOPLE THAT USED TO LIVE HERE PROBABLY MOVED AWAY SOME TIME AGO.
HOP
SARAH! NO! WAIT!
I-IT'S HERE?!
I'M BETTER OFF TALKING TO THE WALL
...
HEY!
HOP
YOU KNOW VERY WELL THAT YOUR DAD FORBADE YOU FROM TALKING TO IT!
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DO WHEN YOU SEE THAT TREE?!

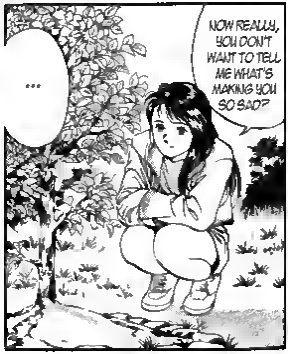
THIS PLACE IS HUGE! THE OWNERS MUST HAVE BEEN REALLY RICH!
VHH

!!

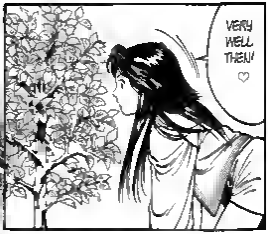
SO IT WAS YOU FROM YESTERDAY?! NOW I UNDERSTAND WHY YOUR SIGNALS WERE SO WEAK. IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SO YOUNG!
A YOUNG OAK!

SSSSHH...




...
NOW REALLY, YOU DON'T WANT TO TELL ME WHAT'S MAKING YOU SO SAD?

I CAME TODAY BECAUSE I WAS WORRIED ABOUT YOU! YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE MANNERS AROUND ME!!
SO YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SAY ANYTHING, HUH? YOU SEEMED TO TALK A LOT LAST NIGHT! EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY FOR A COUPLE OF MINUTES!


VERY WELL THEN! ♡

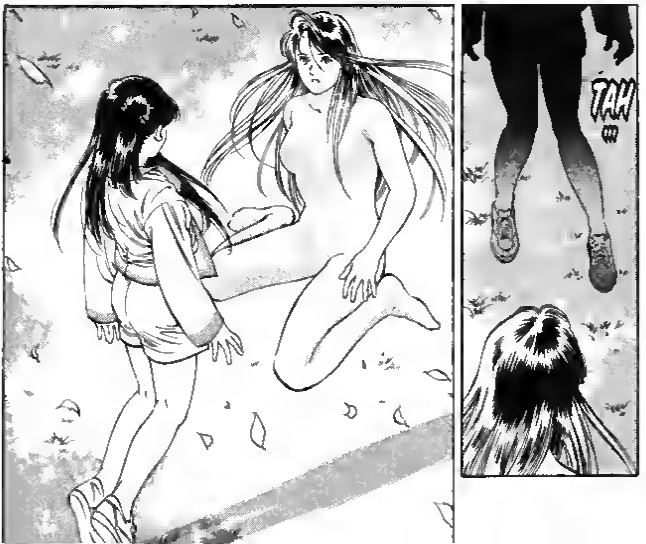
MMM...

!?
HEY, HEY, IT'S QUITE A SURPRISE, HUH?!
IN THIS FORM, I HAVE NO TROUBLE AT ALL IN READING YOUR SPIRIT!
DOH!!

WHAT ?!?
IAAA AAHH !!

WWWHH
WWWHHH

...?
WHAT HAPPENED?
I HAVE THE FEELING LIKE MY HEART'S GOING TO EXPLODE

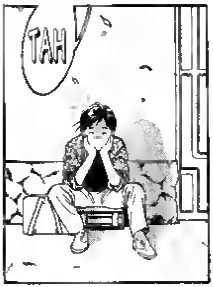

TAH!!!

BUT...
CLOUDS
ZOH
ZAH
PAH!
POH
GOH!
DAH
DAH
Weird... Feeling... I see...
Body strange material It can fold
HOW CAN IT BE THAT MY BODY CAN MOVE BY ITSELF?!
ZOH
BAH
BOH
? ... ?

!!
Is this the body of a human being?!
It's so fun!
AAAHH !!
YOU TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE FACT THAT MY SPIRIT HAD LEFT SO YOU TOOK CONTROL OF MY BODY!
YOU TRANS-FERRED YOUR SPIRIT INTO MY BODY?!
AH! IT'S YOU! THE YOUNG OAK?!
HURRY AND RETURN MY SPIRIT BACK TO MY BODY, YOU HEAR?!
HI HI...

TAH
HEY!
I need this body so I can move around!!
No way!
BAH!
I can finally find him!!
With this body, I can finally go!
I DON'T WANT TO END MY DAYS AS A YOUNG OAK! MEANIE!!
WHAT AM I GOING TO BECOME?!
WAIT! WHAT ABOUT ME?! I CAN'T STAY LIKE THIS!!
WHO'S THIS "HIM" ?!
HMM

She is releasing some frustration

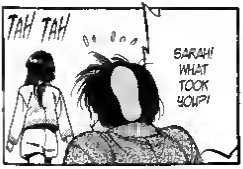

TAH

I'M NOTHING BUT AN IDIOT!
I HAVE TO FIND THE "BODY THIEF"
VUH
HAH HAH

BLAM
WAAHH!
BAH

HMMP

OOH
OWW...

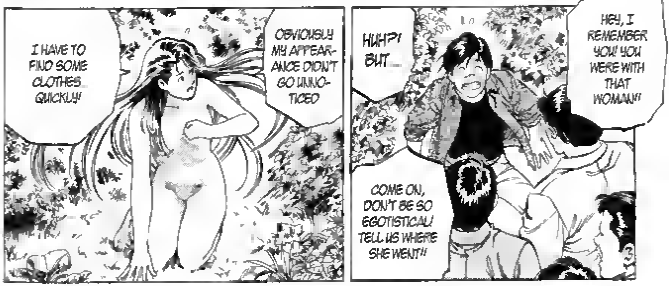

TAH TAH
SARAH! WHAT TOOK YOU?!

AA AH
WHAT UR YOO DOING?
...
...?
Human beings are so fun!
GAH
PAF
POF
PIF
RAF
EH!
AH!
OH!
HAS SHE GONE COMPLETELY NUTS OR WHAT?!
OH, OH, OH...
TAT-SUJA!!

...UM...
WHAT?
WHERE WAS I HEADING? DID YOU SEE WHERE I WAS GOING?!
Hee...
Human beings can't move a lot for long periods of time?
That's strange, it hurts...
Hee...
Hee,
Hee,
Hee
Hee
It lacks nutritious substances!
And what are the noises coming from here?
Water!!

W-WELL, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?!
WHAT?! A YOUNG OAK STOLE YOUR BODY FROM YOU?!
WE HAVE TO FIND IT AT ALL COSTS!!
AH. WELL. THAT'S ALL GOOD AND ALL, BUT..
IT'S REALLY UNFAIR. I TRUSTED IT JUST BECAUSE IT WAS A YOUNG TREE
BOH
I CAN'T EVEN ASK MY DAD TO HELP. IF HE FINDS OUT I DISOBEYED HIM, HE'LL BE FURIOUS!
DID YOU GUYS SEE?! SHE WAS TOTALLY NAKED!!
YEAH! IT WAS INCREDIBLE!! SHE WAS COMPLETELY NUDE!!
THIS ISN'T A REAL BODY. YOU KNOW THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SHY ABOUT.
HUH?
DO YOU INTEND TO WALK AROUND NAKED?!

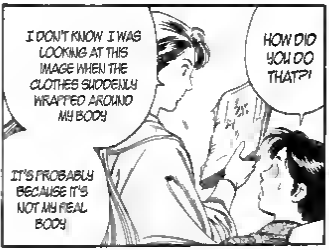
SCSAAA
HURRY!! HIDE IN THE BUSHES!!
DIDN'T YOU GET THE IMPRESSION THAT SHE WAS FLYING?
SHE WENT THAT WAY!
I ONLY SAW HER FOR A QUARTER OF A SECOND, BUT WHAT A BEAUTY!
AN EXHIBITIONIST?
LET'S GO!
WOAH!!
HA HA HA


I HAVE TO FIND SOME CLOTHES... QUICKLY!
OBVIOUSLY MY APPEARANCE DIDN'T GO UNNOTICED
HUH?! BUT...
HEY, I REMEMBER YOU! YOU WERE WITH THAT WOMAN!!
COME ON, DON'T BE SO EGOTISTICAL! TELL US WHERE SHE WENT!!

New Fall Winter line up by Pierre Saint Laurent
NOW HERE'S AN OUTFIT I NEED
A FASHION MAGAZINE..
?!

HUH?
...
NNN
SHE'S HIDING IN THE BUSHES!!
NO! THERE'S NO ONE!!
SHUT UP!
WAA-AAH !!
!!
SCHRAC

AAH, SHE'S DRESSED!
...?
WELL, LET'S GO, TATSUYA.
WAH!
BUT SHE'S STILL GOR-GEOUS!


I DON'T KNOW. I WAS LOOKING AT THIS IMAGE WHEN THE CLOTHES SUDDENLY WRAPPED AROUND MY BODY
HOW DID YOU DO THAT?!
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE IT'S NOT MY REAL BODY.

EH!
WE'LL THINK ABOUT THAT LATER! WE HAVE TO FIND YOUR BODY!!

What am I going to become in this body? I don't feel very good
My roots aren't taking in the water!
BLUB BLUB
SPLASH
Strange...

I DON'T UNDER-STAND
WHAT THAT HOMING OAK WANTS TO DO WITH MY BODY

SCENE 16
NIGHTTIME PROMENADE

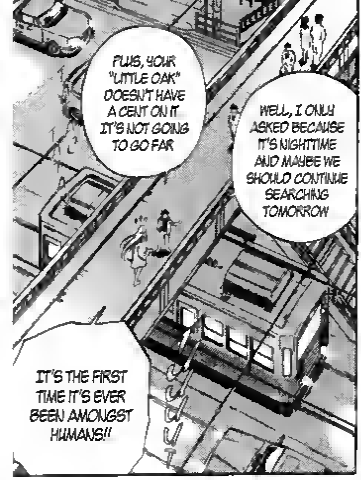
GRRR
BLOOD
BOÂÂRS
BLOPS
!?
PAH
I have to hurry!! If I don't, then I'll be too late!!
There are such weird sounds and these roots serve no purpose
My god, this body is unlucky.. maybe it's sick or something Yeah, that must be why
AHHHHH
GOOOOH!

IAA-AHH !!
AAA HHH !!
DDD
OOOH

AAA HGA AHH .
!!!!!

Is it a monster?!
What is. that?!

...


PUB, YOUR "LITTLE OAK" DOESN'T HAVE A CLUE ON IT IT'S NOT GOING TO GO FAR
WELL, I ONLY ASKED BECAUSE IT'S NIGHTTIME AND MAYBE WE SHOULD CONTINUE SEARCHING TOMORROW
IT'S THE FIRST TIME IT'S EVER BEEN AMONGST HUMANS!!

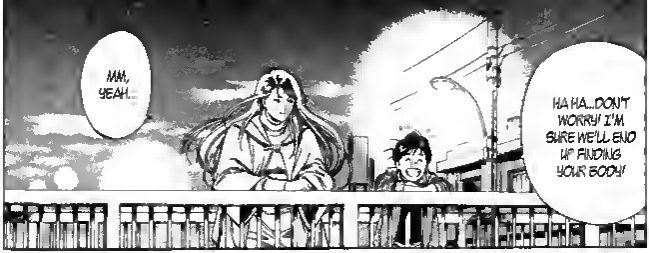
YOU STILL HAVEN'T FOUND HER?
SARAH..

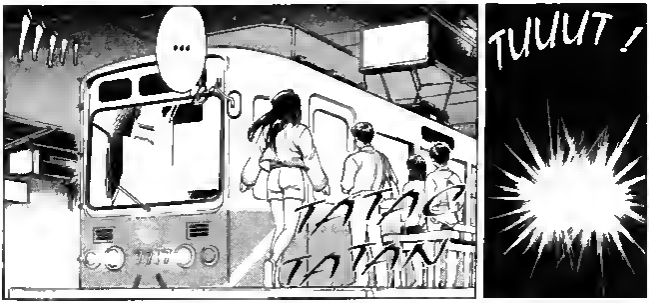
SINCE I'M NOT REALLY IN MY BODY, I'M HAVING TWICE AS MUCH TROUBLE TRYING TO MAKE CONTACT!!
IF YOU WOULD JUST SHUT UP, I'D BE ABLE TO CONCENTRATE!!

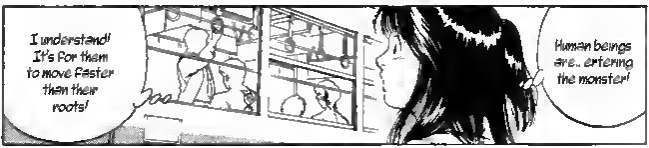
I MIGHT DISAPPEAR FOREVER TOO IF MY BODY DIED

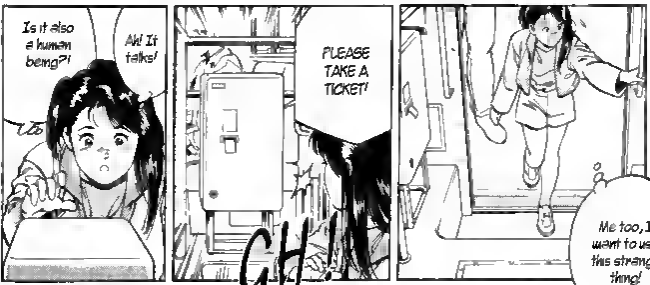
IF I DON'T FIND MY BODY, I MIGHT BE STUCK LIKE THIS FOREVER!!
HONESTLY! ANYTHING CAN BE HAPPENING TO IT RIGHT NOW! IT COULD BE AN ACCIDENT FOR ALL WE KNOW...

AND THAT IS MAKING ME FEEL EVEN MORE FRUSTRATED!
SORRY FOR GETTING SO MAD AT YOU EARLIER. BUT I'M SURE THAT MY BODY IS NEARBY.
SORRY, TATSUYA..


MM, YEAH...
HA HA...DON'T WORRY! I'M SURE WE'LL END UP FINDING YOUR BODY!

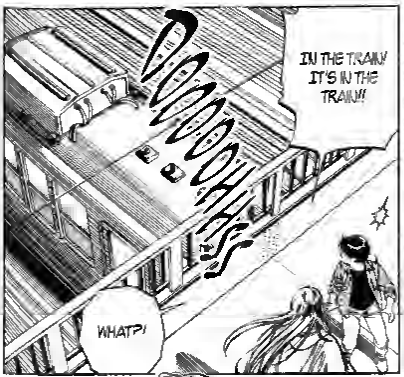

...
TATAC TATAN
TUUUT !

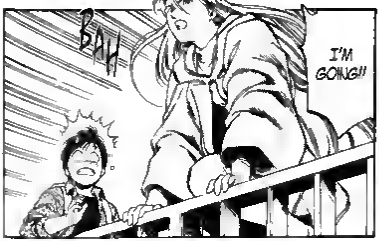

I understand! It's for them to move faster then their roots!
Human beings are.. entering the monster!

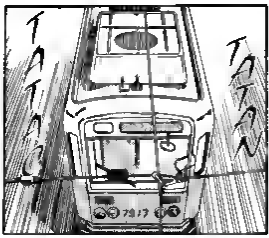

Is it also a human being?!
Ah! It talks!
PLEASE TAKE A TICKET!
GH!
Me too, I want to use this strange thing!

And now what do I do with the ticket?
...
Huh?
IS THIS YOUR FIRST TIME TAKING THE TRAIN? YOU HAVE TO TAKE A TICKET AND THEN SIT DOWN
Uh, hello!!
PLEASE TAKE A TICKET!
SHE IS TRYING TO IMITATE THE TICKET DISPENSER.
?
...
AH! THERE IT IS! I'VE FOUND IT!
Ah! The monster's moving!!

IT'S REALLY CLOSE AND MOVING FAST!!
WHERE IS IT?!


DOOOOHHSS
IN THE TRAIN! IT'S IN THE TRAIN!!
WHAT?!


BAH
I'M GOING!!


TATATA
TATATA

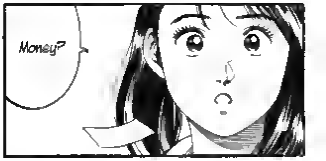
I DON'T HAVE ANY MORE MONEY LEFT! I SPENT IT ALL ON THE SANDWICHES!
THEN GO CALL A TAXI!!

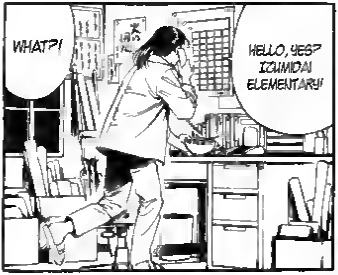
STAY HERE!!
STOP!! IF YOU GO, YOU'RE GOING TO CREATE ANOTHER SCENE!!
DAH

WHEN I GET MY HANDS ON IT, I'M GOING TO MAKE IT PAY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE IT'S CAUSED ME!!
TA-TAC TA-TAU
THERE'S NO CHOICE! WE GOTTA RUN AFTER IT!!
THE TRAIN STATION IS ONLY THREE STATIONS AWAY FROM HERE!
RUN-NING ?!
I'll be there in no time at this rate!
Wow! It's going so fast!
HUH?!
WE HAVE ARRIVED AT THE STATION! ALL PASSENGERS, PLEASE EXIT THE TRAIN!
THE STATION! THE STATION!

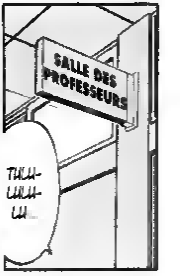
TULU-LULU-LU..

MISS, WE'VE ARRIVED AT THE STATION! PREPARE YOUR MONEY!

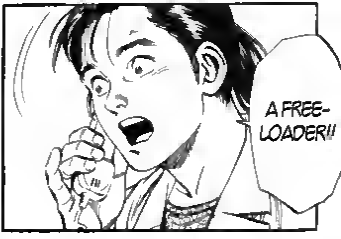

Money?


WHAT?!
HELLO, YES? IZUMIDAI ELEMENTARY!

KAH


SALLE DES PROFESSEURS
TULU-LULU-LU..

YES, WE FOUND A LABEL ON HER COAT POCKET THAT HAD THE NAME OF YOUR SCHOOL ON IT
Boohoo . sniff!


A FREE-LOADER!!

It's so obvious that my body's sick! I have water coming out of my eyes and I can't stop them! I'll dry up completely if I don't stop!
I have to go! Why are they keeping me here?!
SHE WON'T STOP CRYING AND CAN'T SEEM TO GIVE US HER ADDRESS. CAN YOU PICK HER UP FOR US, PLEASE?
sniff sniff
CHIEF! SHE'S NOT FEELING WELL!
CLOUDS
I'm going to die for sure!
I HAVE TO BE ON MY GUARD! WHAT COULD THAT GIRL HAVE BEEN THINKING?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! IT'S SARAH, THE FREELOADER!!
Ligne 12
GARE de
FINALLY! WE'RE HERE!
HAA HAA
HAA. HAA.

I SENSE THAT IT'S STILL AROUND HERE! WHERE CAN IT BE HIDING?!
HAH, THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY! THAT'S NOT YOUR REAL BODY SO YOU DON'T GET TIRED!
HAA
THERE IT IS!!
IT WAS BROUGHT HERE BY THEM BECAUSE SHE TRIED TO BILK. REMEMBER THAT SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY MONEY?
BAH... HOW DID IT MAKE IT HERE?
THAT TREE'S NOTHING BUT A POORLY-RAISED TRICKSTER!!
WHY HAVEN'T YOU TRIED PASSING OFF AS ITS FAMILY?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I DON'T HAVE ANY PAPERS TO PROVE IT AND I CAN'T EVEN PAY FOR HER FARE!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!!! I WANT MY BODY BACK RIGHT NOW!!!

GRRRR*
REALLY. IT'S SO UNFAIR!
CLAC
WHAT?! MISTER OOKI?!
EXCUSE ME!
EVERYTHING'S GOING WRONG AND NOTHING'S GOING RIGHT! I'M LOSING HOPE.
LOOKS LIKE THEY CALLED THE SCHOOL.
BUT, WHAT IS HE DOING HERE?!
...
REST ASSURED THAT SOMETHING LIKE THIS WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH! SORRY FOR CAUSING SO MUCH TROUBLE!

AH! THIS ISN'T GOOD! HE'S GOING TO TAKE HER HOME IN A STATE LIKE THAT!!
SARAH, ARE YOU LISTENING TO ME?
...
SARAH... I'M HAVING TROUBLE FIGURING OUT HOW YOU ENDED UP IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS!
...
DYING FROM HUNGER
HEY! MISTER OOKI!
WELL, I GUESS IT'S ALL UP TO ME!
I'LL TRICK HIM!
...
...
TATSUHA! SAVE ME!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, AT THIS HOUR? HEY, SARAH'S WITH YOU?!
IT'S NOT EXACTLY NEARBY!!
THEN, JUST LIKE THAT, YOU'RE GONNA DRIVE HER HOME?
AH! KITAZAKI! WELL, IT'S A REALLY FUNNY STORY...

THANKS AGAIN!
WELL, GOOD NIGHT, MISTER OOKI!
REALLY? THAT'S REALLY NICE OF YOU!!
ALSO, YOU'RE ON GUARD I CAN HELP HER BACK IF YOU WANT
WAAAHH!! YOU'RE AMAZING!!
BAM!
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!
HE HE HE!
OOH
!?
ALRIGHT NOW...
WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT WAS KITAZAKI DOING HERE, AT THIS HOUR?
BOKI!!
N!?
HEY, KITAZAKI! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!
HM?!
UM. SHE REALLY DOESN'T LOOK SO GOOD

YUP, THAT'S IT!
IN THAT CASE THERE'S NO PROBLEM
WELL, THAT DOES MAKE SENSE A CHAPERONE...
WAA-AHH!!!
AND WHO IS THIS YOUNG WOMAN?
NOBODY, NOBODY!! IT'S A FRIEND OF MY MOM'S!
I'VE NEVER HAD THE PLEASURE OF MEETING YOU! YOU MUST BE CONFUSING ME WITH SOMEONE ELSE! HA HA HA
IT'S FUNNY I HAVE THE STRANGE IMPRESSION THAT I'VE MET YOU SOMEWHERE BEFORE
GLOUPS
WAIT!!
PHOU
MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY...
YEAH, THAT MUST BE IT!
DOO
ME?
BUT OF COURSE!!! YOU'RE THE WITCH THAT LIVES IN SARAH'S BODY!!
OOHH
BUT...
GH
GH
GH
BUT...
BUT OF COURSE!!

ZAH!
ZAH!
BAH!
HAAAA
YOU WILL LEAVE THIS PLACE!
RETURN TO WHERE YOU CAME!
BEGONE! SERVANT OF SATAN!!! I WILL SEND YOU BACK TO HELL!!
O, VILE CREATURE! WHAT DARK THINGS DOES YOUR EVIL SPIRIT INTEND TO DO?!
WHAT HAPPENED?!
HER EYES ARE EMPTY!!
IT'S ALSO A GHOST!!!
RE-GOUE DEMON!
EHH-HH!!
SBOM
AND...
HOOO
It's... it's the end
MIAM
CRONCH
GLOUP GLOPS
RESTAURANT TWO CASA
CASA
RESTAURANT TWO CASA

MIAM
MIAM
...
ANYWAYS.
GLOUPS
CRUNCH
CROC

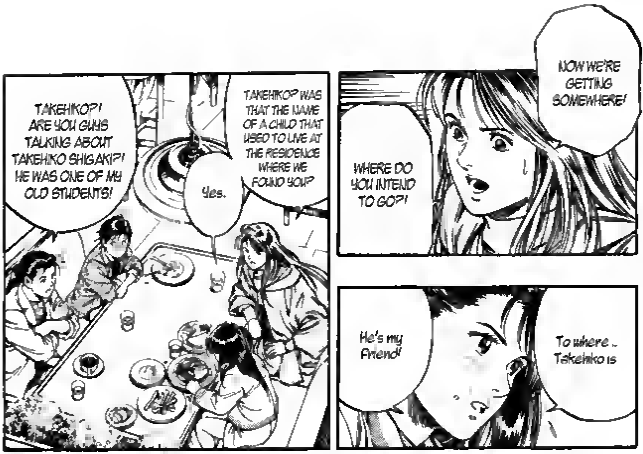
DO YOU GUYS TAKE ME FOR AN IDIOT OR SOMETHING?
SO YOU GUYS ARE SAYING THAT THE SPIRIT OF AN OLD TREE IS CURRENTLY POSSESSING SARAH'S BODY?

Human beings survive with these sources of nutrition?! I never would've known!
Wow!! It's so good!!

I have to go to that place!!
No!!

WE DON'T REALLY HAVE A CHOICE..
AND WE DIDN'T TELL HIM EVERYTHING
SARAH, DO WE REALLY NEED TO TELL HIM EVERYTHING?

MIAM
...
AND YOU, YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME BACK MY BODY ONCE YOU'VE FINISHED EATING

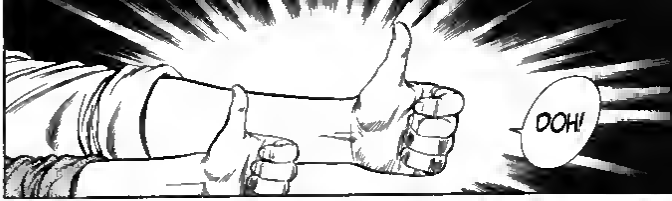

TAKEHIKO?! ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT TAKEHIKO SHIGAKI?! HE WAS ONE OF MY OLD STUDENTS!
TAKEHIKO? WAS THAT THE NAME OF A CHILD THAT USED TO LIVE AT THE RESIDENCE WHERE WE FOUND SOJI?
Yes.
NOW WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE!
WHERE DO YOU INTEND TO GO?!
He's my Friend!
To where .. Takehiko is
HE OWNED A HUGE AMOUNT OF FORESTS IN THE NAGANO AREA, WHICH MAKES SENSE WHY HE MOVED THERE A WEEK AGO BECAUSE OF HIS WORK
IF IT'S REALLY HIM, THEN I KNOW HIM WELL. HE WAS THE SON OF THE CELEBRITY, ZIGORO SHIGAKI, THE ONE WHO WAS NICKNAMED "THE KING OF THE FORESTS."

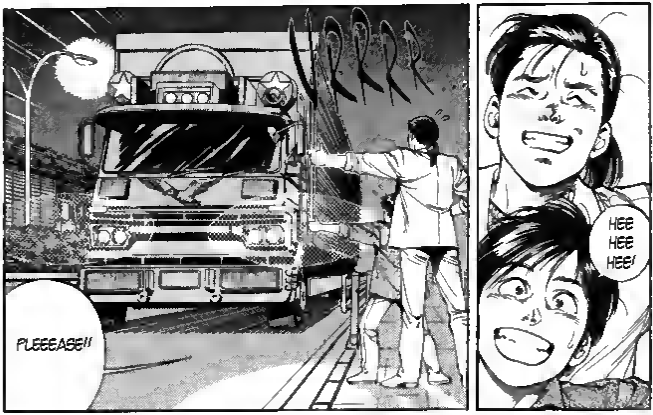
It's dangerous! I have to save him because he is a Friend! My Friend!
Yes, I heard some thieves talking...
GREAT DANGER?!
Because Takehiko is in great danger!
Then I am heading towards Nagano!!

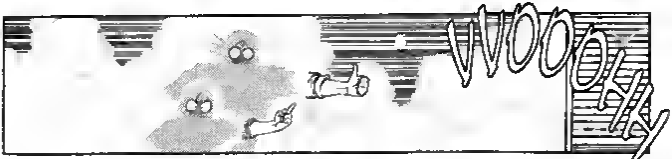
...
Yes... he is my best friend!
WHAT?!
I can't make it there on my own, I've realized that
You come too!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!
SARAH, I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING BUT SHE LOOKS SERIOUS
WHAT A LITTLE VILLAIN!!
HN...
NOOO! MERCY!
D-O-H
If you don't come, I'll never give back your body! I'll keep it forever!!

CHAPTER 17

CRESCENDO


OOH!


HEE HEE HEE!
PLEEEASE!!


VVOOOSH

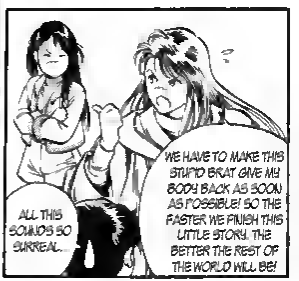
Come oooh! Have you guys stopped a car?! We've already been waiting for hours!!
...
HOOOH
...
HOOOH
HOO

Don't be stupid!! We have to get there as soon as possible!!
DON'T

USE-LESS!
You guys aren't being serious about this!! No cars are stopping!! Smile harder!!
BUT WHY ARE WE HITCHHIKING? CAN'T WE JUST WAIT FOR THE FIRST TRAIN TO MAGANO?

I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT WE'RE FOUR! NO CAR IS GOING TO TAKE US ALL! THERE ISN'T EVEN ANY TRUCK THAT CAN TAKE US ONE STOP!
NOT USEFUL?
WE'RE OBVIOUSLY FOUR, BUT NOT ALL OF US ARE BEING USEFUL!

PFF
...


?
ALL THIS SOUNDS SO SURREAL..
WE HAVE TO MAKE THIS STUPID BRAT GIVE MY BODY BACK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE! SO THE FASTER WE FINISH THIS LITTLE STORY, THE BETTER THE REST OF THE WORLD WILL BE!

ME?! PFF... YOU'RE JUST AS USEFUL AS I AM! AND THIS STORY DOESN'T EVEN CONCERN YOU!
FINALLY, THE WITCH SPEAKS SOME TRUTH! TATSUHA, YOU SHOULD GO HOME!

WHAT?! YOU'RE QUESTIONING MY INTEGRITY AS A TEACHER?! I'VE HANDLED TOUGHER GUYS THAN YOU! HURRY ON HOME! THERE'S SCHOOL TOMORROW!!
WHAT?! SINCE WHEN DID YOU TAKE YOUR JOB SO SERIOUSLY?! YOU NEVER CARED BEFORE!!
WRONG! I AM A TEACHER AND IT IS MY DUTY TO WATCH OVER MY STUDENTS!
I'VE HAD IT UP TO HERE WITH YOUR YELLING!!
SHUUUUUUT UUUUUP!!
LIKE HECK I'M GOING TO LEAVE HIM ALONE WITH SARAH!
I'M SURE HE'S UP TO SOMETHING!
IT'S MY ONLY CHANCE TO GET SOME PROOF AND SHOW EVERYONE THAT SARAH IS INDEED A WITCH!
I HAVE NO INTENTION AT LEAVING
I'll keep this body forever! He he!
And hurry! If you don't...
Do you think you're any better? If you really want your body back that badly, then go stop a car.
You say that they're useless but you yourself haven't done anything.
Human beings love to say useless things.
Pppt

FINE! I'LL SHOW YOU ALL AND THEN WE'LL SEE WHO'S USELESS!
...
YES, THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WAS THINKING!
GRR... WHAT A DESPICABLE LITTLE...
SHE'S REALLY MAD...
HOOO... SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE'S JOKING AROUND!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK! YOU GUYS WILL WITNESS THE POWER OF FEMININE CHARM!
...
A NEW FUEL
Shall we 1000
PUT A TIGRESS IN YOUR ENGINE!
HMM, BUT THESE CLOTHES AREN'T REALLY SEXY!...

SARAH CAN "CHANGE" HER CLOTHES WITH JUST AN IMAGE IN HER MIND
YOOHOOO!
♡
WHO WANTS TO DRIVE US IN THEIR CAR?
♡
VRUUUM
VRUUUM
FLANCH
HUH?!
OOH! SHE PUT OUT THE PACKAGE!
TUT TUUUT
WOO-AH!
MISS! WHERE ARE DO YOU WANT TO GO? I'D GO TO THE END OF THE WORLD IF YOU WOULD BE THERE!

SBLANG!!!

3rd PLATEAU NOT FAR FROM THE CITY OF UEDA, NAGANO PREFECTURE

...

WHICH ONE SHALL WE TAKE THEN?
HA HA HA!

Human beings are so strange..

IF THAT IS ALL YOU WISHED TO SPEAK WITH ME ABOUT, THEN I WILL BE OFF TO BED
SHIGAKI
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT THESE FORESTS AREN'T FOR SALE?!
BUT MR. SHIGAKI! PLEASE AT LEAST TAKE A LOOK AT THIS FILE BEFORE DECIDING!
OUR ENTERPRISE INTENDS TO PRESERVE THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THIS PLACE BY CREATING A GARDEN REVOLVING AROUND THE THEME OF MAN AND HIS ENVIRONMENT, AND HOW HE SHOULD RESPECT IT!
...
ALL YOU'VE SHOWN ME IS A FILE WITH FAKE PAPERS MADE SOLELY TO CONVINCE ME!

...
I KNOW WELL OF THE INTENTIONS OF YOUR SOCIETY TO RAZE ALL THE TREES OF THE FOREST JUST SO YOU CAN BUILD A GOLF COURSE AND A LEISURE CENTRE... ISN'T THAT RIGHT?!
DON'T DELAY IT! DO YOU TAKE ME FOR AN IMBECILE?
I WON'T ALLOW IT! EVER! KNOW THIS WELL!

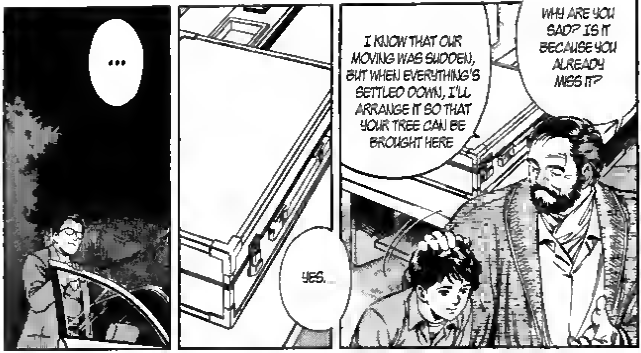
VERY WELL... I WON'T PERSIST ANYMORE...
...

YOU'LL FIND IT USEFUL..
WHAT DO YOU YOU WANT ME TO DO?!
ANYWAYS, I WAS FORBIDDEN TO RETURN, UNDER DEATH PENALTY, WITH IT...
BUT I'LL LEAVE WITH YOU THIS SUITCASE IT CONTAINS FIVE HUNDRED MILLION YEN PLEASE RECONSIDER...

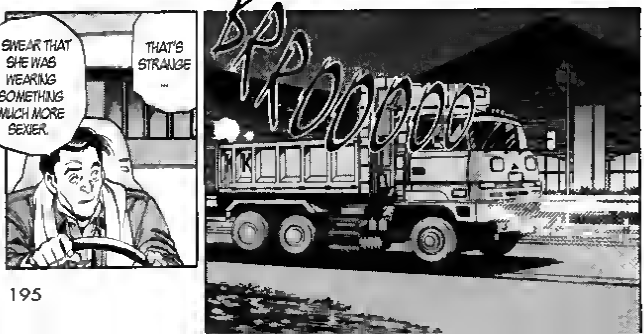
PFF I DIDN'T ASK ANYTHING OF HIM! WHAT DOES HE EXPECT ME TO DO WITH THIS SUITCASE?!
VLAM
GOODBYE ...

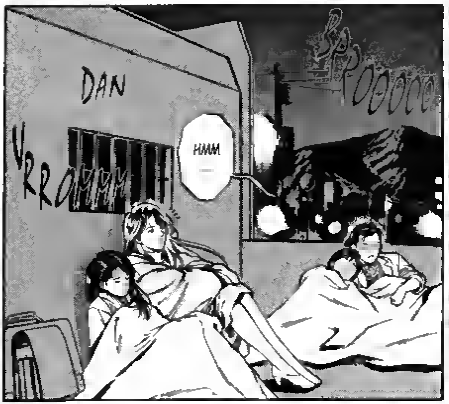
GRAND-FATHER
WHY DID HE COME BACK?
...
TAKEHIKO! WHY ARE YOU AWAKE?

I'M WELL AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THIS PLACE IS THE "NATURAL SOIL" OF YOUR LITTLE OAK TREE
MM.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING TAKEHIKO I'LL NEVER SELL THESE FORESTS


...
YES.
I KNOW THAT OUR MOVING WAS SUDDEN, BUT WHEN EVERYTHING'S SETTLED DOWN, I'LL ARRANGE IT SO THAT YOUR TREE CAN BE BROUGHT HERE
WHY ARE YOU SAD? IS IT BECAUSE YOU ALREADY MISS IT?

MISTER SHIGAKI!
HURRY AND PROFIT FROM THE MONEY WHILE YOU STILL CAN.

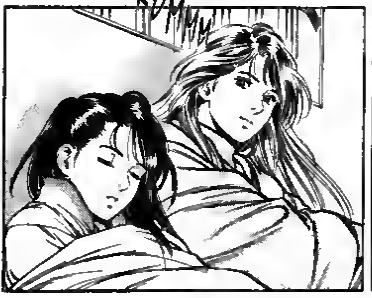

I SWEAR THAT SHE WAS WEARING SOMETHING MUCH MORE SEXIER.
THAT'S STRANGE ...
BROOOOM

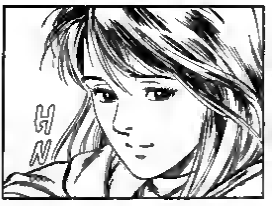

DAN
HMM...

NAGANO 152 km
UEDA 128 km
SEEING HOW MUCH WE STILL HAVE TO TRAVEL, LOOKS LIKE WE WON'T BE THERE BEFORE DAWN
I SHOULD SLEEP BUT I'M NOT FEELING SLEEPY

MOM... I'M SORRY I WON'T DO IT AGAIN

CALL ME "PRINCIPAL OOKI"!




HN

Take... Hiko...
RRRR
DAN
IT'S CUTER WHEN IT'S ASLEEP
HE HE...
EVEN IF I'M SUPPOSED TO BE JUST A SPIRIT, I MISS MY BODY SO MUCH!
BUT THAT'S MYSELF I'M TALKING ABOUT! THIS ADVENTURE IS MAKING ME DIZZY!
...
Takehiko
SHARE WITH ME YOUR THOUGHTS

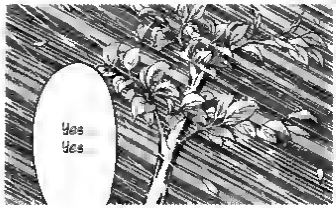
GRAND-FATHER
...
FATHER
...
UM... WELL, I MIGHT HAVE TO THROW IT OUT
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THIS LITTLE TREE, GRAND-FATHER?
YOU REALLY ARE MY GRANDSON!
HA HA! WELL SAID...
GRANDFATHER! WHY DON'T YOU LET ME HAVE IT? I'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF IT!
I'M TOO OLD TO TAKE CARE OF IT PROPERLY
...
I AM THE GRANDSON OF THE "KING OF FORESTS", SO IT'S MY TURN TO TAKE CARE OF THE TREES!
WELL THEN.

saved me...
Takehiko
He...
DON'T WORRY LITTLE OAK! I'LL TAKE GREAT CARE OF YOU!!

IT'S A WASTE OF EFFORT, TAKEHIKO...
IT'S USELESS IT'S TOO WEAK... IT'S NOT "FAMILIARIZING" ITSELF WITH THE NEW SOIL...

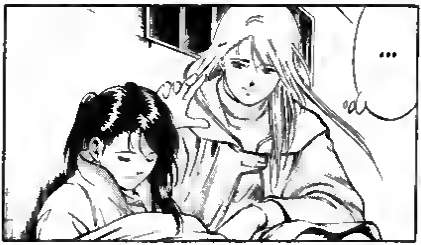
THERE MY LITTLE OAK!! BE STRONG!!
AS LONG AS I'M HERE, I'LL NEVER LET YOU FALL!!

I'LL NEVER ABANDON IT!!
NOOOOOO! I PROMISED IT THAT I WOULD MAKE IT GROW BIG AND STRONG ONE DAY!!!


Yes
Yes

BE STRONG!

CAN YOU SEE HOW BEAUTIFUL ITS LEAVES ARE?
DID YOU SEE THAT, GRANDFATHER? IT CAME BACK TO LIFE!
CONGRATULATIONS MY LITTLE OAK!
Takehiko is happy.. I am happy
Takehiko is.. my Friend


...

Takehiko

THAT STUPID CRAZY OLD MAN WON'T SELL THE FOREST?!
I UNDERSTAND NOW.
WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH THIS WHATEVER THE COST!
THERE AREN'T ANY OTHER SOLUTIONS!
Takehiko?
Those bad humans want to hurt him?!
I'LL GO UP TO HIM AGAIN IN MAGANO. THIS WILL BE HIS LAST CHANCE. IF HE STILL REFUSES...
IF MONEY ISN'T ENOUGH... THEN WE'LL FIND SOME OTHER MEANS TO FORCE HIS HAND. THEY SAY THAT AGENT IS ATTACHED TO THAT GRANDSON OF HIS.
These two humans are bad! I can sense it!
I'VE ALREADY TAKE CARE OF HIS GRANDSON!

...
NEVERTHELESS, THIS LITTLE OAK IS ONLY A CHILD! WHAT CAN IT POSSIBLY DO?
THEY'RE NOT JUST PLAYING AROUND! THE SITUATION IS VERY SERIOUS! I UNDERSTAND WHY IT WAS SO IMPATIENT BEFORE.
VROOM
WHAT ?!
EHHH!!
N ??
RRRR

WHAT? WE'VE ALREADY ARRIVED?
YUP, WE'RE AT UEDA, IN THE NAGANO PREFECTURE.
AND IN A COUPLE OF MOMENTS, WE'LL ARRIVE AT THE FINAL DESTINATION OF OUR ADVENTURE!
SARAH, WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?
WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO WAKE YOU GUYS UP FOR THE PAST HOUR! THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY!
OW OW OW...
YOU'RE ONLY THINKING ABOUT GETTING YOUR BODY BACK, WHILE WE WASTE AWAY HERE AND DIE OF HUNGER
"LATER", ARE YOU SERIOUS?!!
WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE! SAVE IT FOR LATER!
ALRIGHT! HOW ABOUT WE GO EAT A HUGE BREAKFAST! I COULD EAT A WHALE WHOLE RIGHT NOW!
?
...
PFF. WHAT A SELFISH WITCH!!

❷ FEELINGS OF DEJA VU UNDER AN AUTUMN SUN (END)